

The Hertfordshire Historians.

Sir HENRY CHAUNCY, Kt.,

Serjeant-at-Law and Recorder of Hertford,

Born 1632, Died 1719,

Author of

THE HISTORICAL ANTIQUITIES OF HERTFORDSHIRE,

Folio, 1700,

Reprinted in 2 Volumes, Octavo, 1826.

A BIOGRAPHY

BY

WILLIAM BLYTH GERISH,

Hon. Secretary of the
East Herts Archæological Society.

LONDON WATERLOW & SONS LTD.
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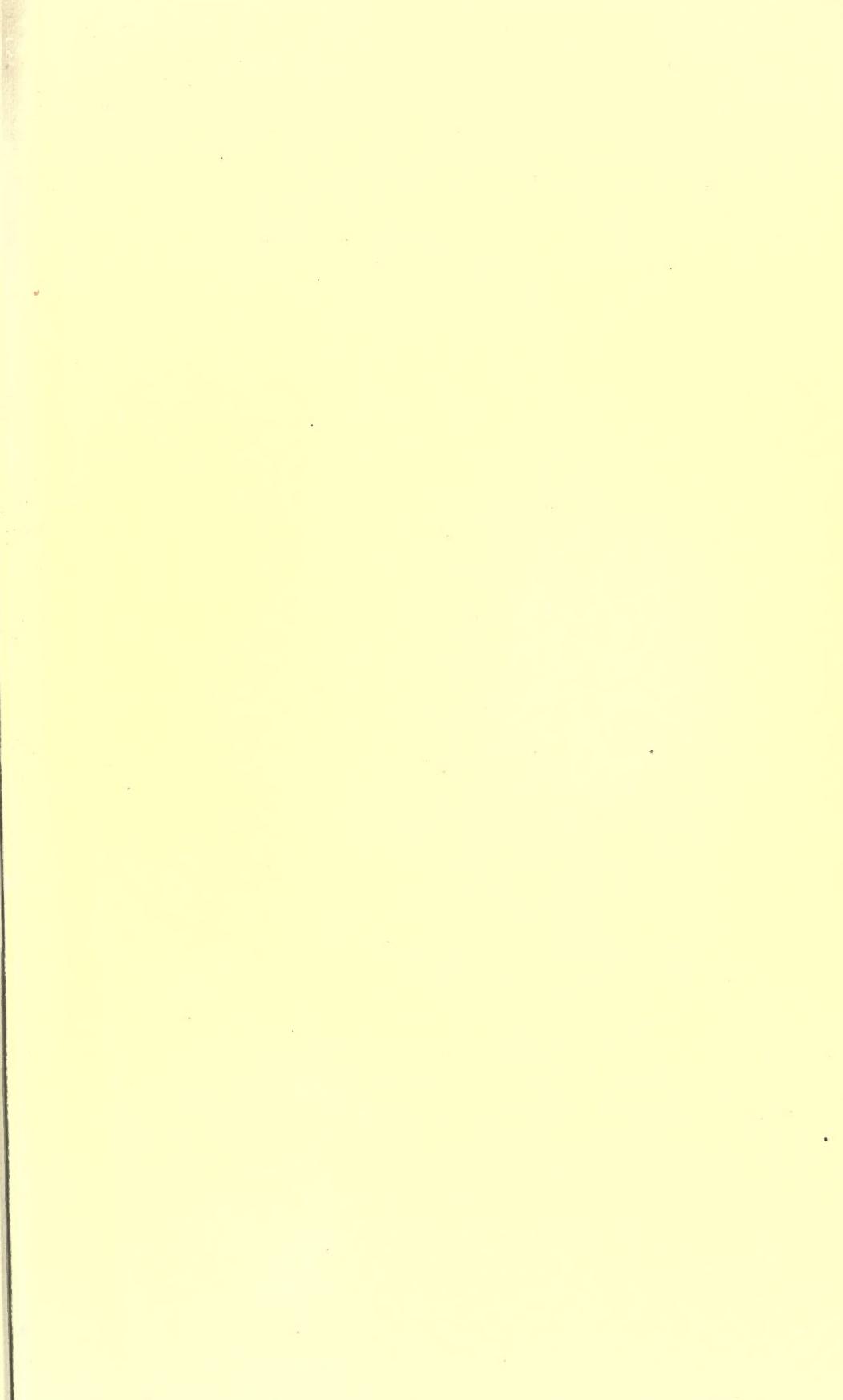
1907.





SIR HENRY CHAUNCY, Kt.







Sir Henry Chauncy, Knt
after J. Savage.

9 may
1698 Your servant
Sir Chauncy

*His Autograph from an Original in the Possession of
John Thane.*

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TO

MAJOR WILLIAM AUSCHAR CHAUNCY

Late 1st Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire) Regt.

This Volume is Dedicated

BY HIS GRATEFUL FRIEND.



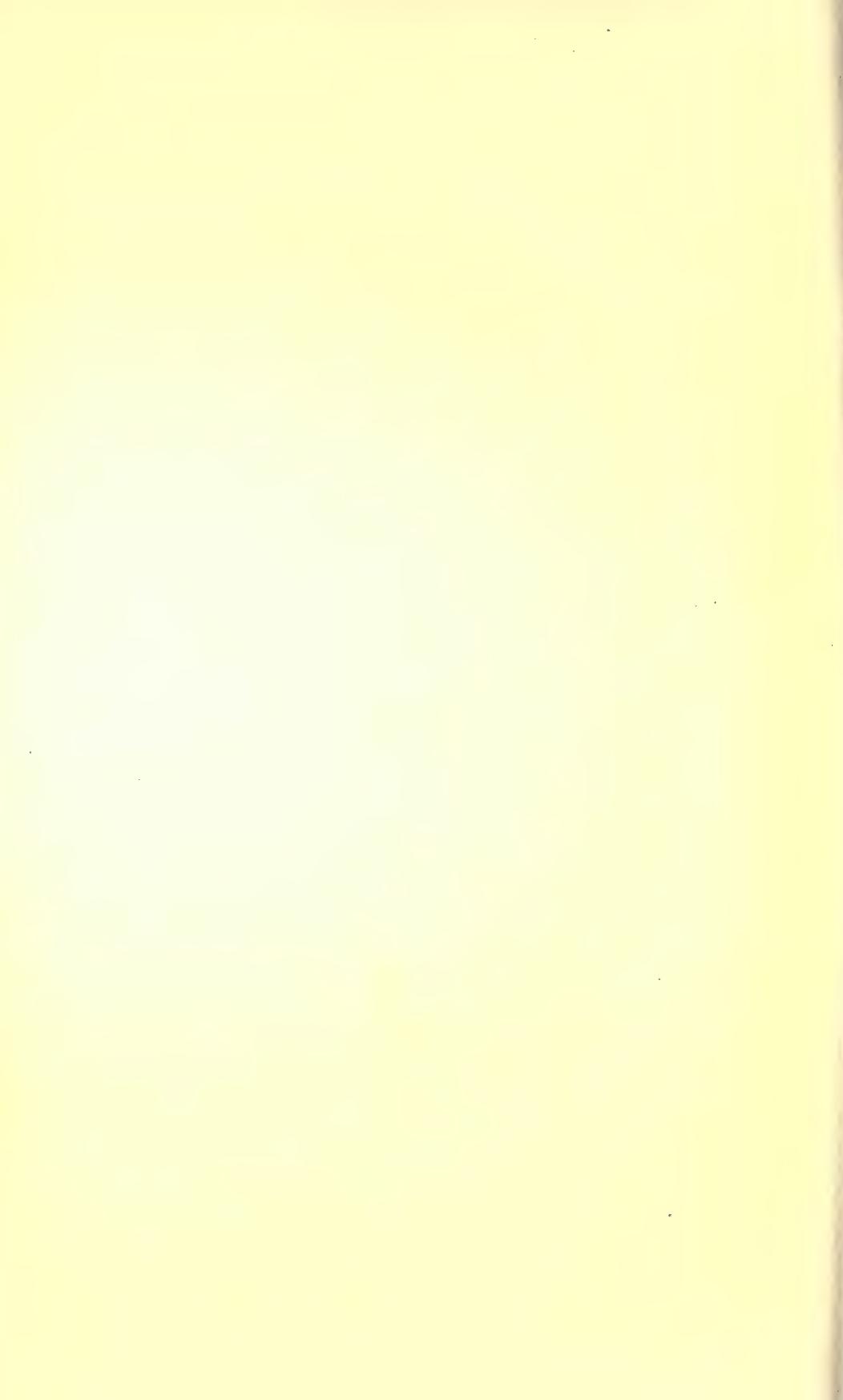
PREFATORY NOTE.

THE materials for a life of Sir Henry Chauncy are extremely scanty. Practically all the sources of information given at the conclusion of the memoir of the Historian in the "Dictionary of National Biography" refer to his great work, and have but slight reference to the man himself. The undertaking would have seemed almost impossible of accomplishment had it not been that the writer had the good fortune to make the acquaintance of Major W. A. Chauncy, who generously placed at his disposal a most valuable manuscript volume, entitled "Memoranda touching the Family of Chauncy," 1888, the compilation of the late Mr. C. A. W. Chauncy.

This book, representing the labour of many years, is an exhaustive record of all the persons bearing the name, contains many references to the Historian, and permission to use the information to be found therein has been freely accorded to his biographer. As some acknowledgment of this kindness this biography of "Hertford's learned son" has been dedicated to his descendant, who, like his ancestor, is proud of his lineage and keenly alive to the value of the county's history.

Thanks also are due to the Rev. W. E. Boulter for his kindly assistance in perusing both the manuscript and proof, and making corrections and suggestions.

January, 1907.





Chauncy de Chauncy, 1066.

William de Chauncy, 1 H. 1.

Aufchar de Chauncy.

Walter de Chauncy Baron de Scirpenbeck, 5 Steph.

Aufride de Chauncy, 12 H. 2. — Maude.

Simon de Chauncy died 30 H. 2. — Helewise de Swinope, a Fleming.

Roger de Pretiosa.

Walter de Chauncy died without issue.

Phil. Chauncy.

Simon de Chauncy — Maud the youngest Sif.

& b. of Geof. de Eningwal.

Rob. de Roos — Isabel dau. &
Ld. of Hemesley. & b. of Will. de Al-

Chauncy.

William de Chauncy — Isabel.

Hugh de Chauncy 2d. son
of Roger, 1 Ed. 2. was Ld. of the
Mannor of Upton in Northam.

John le fiz Hugh de Chauncy
post. brev. de Formond vers. Th.
Lacinet, quod Hugo Chauncy de-
dit Wil. filio suo & heredibus ter-
rem. Richardo fratri &
rem. Johan. fil. Richard. from
whom the Chauncys in Northam-
tonshire do descend.

Robert de
Chauncy died
42 H. 3. 1258.

Sir Phil. de Chauncy son & he. of Wil. — Isabel, d. & b. of
Tho. Moresley.

b. of Al-
biny.

1 William 2 Sir Robert
de Roos. de Roos tem-
pore H. 3.

Robert de Roos Sacer de
Clerk, died 2 Ed. 2. Roos.

Sir Robert Sir John de Roos
de Roos. died without issue.

Thomas de Chauncy son & b. of Robert died
8. April. 2 Ed. 2.

Isabel, da.
& b. of Sir
Philip and I-
sabel his wife
& b. of Is-
abel her Neice.

Gerard de Chauncy son
and heir of Phillip and Isabel
his wife.

Margery da. and — Ralph Gif-
ford. he. of Sir Robert. ford.

Thomas de Chauncy son & b. of William di-
ed, anno 57 Ed. 3.

Thomas de Chauncy son and heir of Thomas di-
ed, anno 5 R. 2.

Sir Will. de Chauncy son — Elizabeth da. to
and heir of Thomas.

Isabel da. and b. of Gerard
died 15 Ed. 2. without issue.

John Gifford. Will. Gifford. Tho. Gifford. Richard.

William Gifford.

John Chauncy, son and b. of Sir Wil. de Chauncy, died 22 H. 8. — Margery Gifford, da. & coh. of Wi. Gifford. Joh Giff. died without issue.

John Chauncy son and b. of John Chauncy — Ann da. of John Leventhorpe, Esq;

John 1. son and b. of John — da. of Tho. Boyce, Esq; 2. Ralph. 1. Catherine. 2. Isabel. 3. Jane. 4. Margaret. 5. Joan. 6. Elizab.

Katharine, — John Chauncy, son — Elizabeth widow of Rich. Manfield. da. & b. of Jo. Proffit of Barcomb in Suf- George. William
wh. died 1535 & b. of John. died 1545. — sex. Gen. and Alice his wife, da. & b. of Joh. Horn of East-Latham in Kent. She died 10 Nov. 1531.

Maurice Prior of
a Convent in Bruges.

Jane his 2. wife, died 12 De-
cemb. 1519. without issue by Henry.

Henry Chauncy — Luce his 1. wife, died
died 24. Apr. 29 Eliz.

Robert Chauncy
3. son of John.

John Chauncy
married Elizab. da.
& b. of Ri. Holiday
died 11. Nov. 1572.

Geo. Chauncy
2d. son to
Henry.

Jane da. &
heir of John
Cornwall, Esq.
first wife.

Robert
third son
of Henry.

Edward fourth
son of Henry. — Elizabeth
Grove.

Arthur Chauncy
3d. son of Robert. — Amable
Adams.

Wil. Chauncy
died without issue.

Ann da. of
Edw. Welch.
2d. wife.

John 2. son to
Henry.

Jerem. died with-
out issue.

Henry son and
heir.

John Edward.

Jane Anne
Winefride.

Amable died with-
out issue.

Ann married Ni.
Cook of Greenwich
in Kent.

3 George.
4 Edward.
5. Charles.

Elizabeth.
5 da. of Geo.
married Rob.
Lane.

6 Lucy.
7 Judith.
8 Anne.
died single.

Mary da. of Henry.
John Burrough,
1. son of
Gen. 2. wife.
Geo. di-
ed. Ap. 18
1621.

Anne da. of
Giles Aleyen
Hafeligh in
Essex, 1. wife.

Jane 1. da.
married Ed.
Coe of Paul
Belcham, Esq.

Frances 2. da.
of Geor. married
Ambro. Porter
of Gloucester.

Barbary 3. da.
of Geor. married
Henry Wright of
London.

Mary,
4. dau. of
George,
died single.

John 2d. Son. — Henry first son — Anne Parke daug. and heir of Peter Parke and Elizabeth
of Henry, died the
1. May, 1681.

his wife, da. and heir of Walter Augar of Edmonton and Alice his wife,
one of the dau. and coheirs of Thomafin Harrifon, Esq; of Horton in Kent.

Elizabeth 2d. dau.
of Nat.
Thruston of
Hoxny in
Suffolk his
third wife
now living.

Henry mar. Eliz.
2d. wife, da. and coheir
of Greg. Wood of Ril-
ly of Suffolk, by whom
he had no issue. She di-
ed 4 Aug. 1677, buried
at Stredset in Norfolk.

Jane young/br.
d. of Francis Fly-
er, Esq; of Brent-
Pellham. She di-
ed 31 Dec. 1672.
buried at Arde-
ley.

John 2. Joyce da. of
son now
Will. Cott-
ton of Lon. Gen.
living.

George 3. son died
in his minority.

Peter 4. son now
living.

Anne 1. da.
married Henry
Hall of Poplar.

Elizabeth died unmar-
ried.

Mary 3. dau.
mar. Wil. Hurst
of Haverill.

Arthur. Eliza-
beth.

Henry died
without issue.

John died
without issue.

Anne. Jane

Francis
Bragge.

Mar-
tha.

James Fo-
rester, Esq;

John Throck-
morton 2. busb.

Humphry
Forester 1st.
husband.

Francis:
Edmond.
Henry.

Elizabeth.
Jane.
Mary.

Pulter.
James.

Margaret.
Martha.
Penelope.
Jane.

Mary.

Humphry died
in his infancy.

Philadelphia.
Philadelphia.

SIR HENRY CHAUNCY.

PART I.

ANCESTRY.

THE Chauncy family can justly boast of very high antiquity in this country, the earliest recorded member of the family having ventured over with William the Conqueror. The name is of course Norman, and was taken from the place-name Canchy or Chancy, a town situated six miles north-east from Abbeville, and less than thirty miles from Amiens. A short distance to the north-east is the river Cancy or Chauncy, which passes by Montreuil, and some two leagues from that town empties itself into the English Channel. The name of the family has at different times been spelt Cinci, Cauci, Caunci, Chauncie, Chauncey, Chancy and Chauncy.

In the Roll of Battle Abbey printed in Stow, Holinshed, and Grafton's Chronicles, we find one Chauncy de Chauncy recorded among the Conqueror's nobles.* His eldest son, William de Chauncy, was given† the Barony of Skirpenbeck, in Yorkshire, in the reign of Henry I.; and another son, Auschar, is recorded as living in the same reign. Walter de

* Several of this name remain still in Normandy, and live there in good credit and reputation at this day. ("Hist. Ant. Herts," *s.v.* Ardeley.)

† Clutterbuck says he purchased it.

Chauncy, son and heir of William, succeeded as Baron. In the fifth year of King Stephen (1139-40) he gave £15 to the King for licence to marry whom he pleased.* The record of this is in the Pipe Roll of that year, p. 26, but the date may possibly be wrong, perhaps the 31st of Henry I. (1130-1). The wife of Walter, and mother of his son and heir Anfride, was Alicia, the eldest sister of William FitzHolte. ("Placit. Abbrev.," pp. 56-7, *temp. 9th John, 1207-8.*) In the "Cal. Rot. Pat.," p. 206, 5th Richard II. (1193-4), it is recorded that the King confirmed to William de Chancy, blood relative (consanguineo), probably cousin and heir, of Anfride de Chauncie, all the land of Walter de Chancie in the county of York, "cum sac, soc," etc., granted by Henry I.

This Anfride (or Anfridus) de Chauncy, who by charter was confirmed to his father's lands by King Henry II., was found to hold five Knights' fees in the 12th Henry II. (1165-6), upon the assessment for an aid for marrying the King's daughter, towards which he paid five marks. He gave lands at Skirpenbeck to the Canons of St. Peter, York, with the consent of his sons Walter and Roger, and was a generous benefactor to monastic institutions and hospitals. He died 6th Richard I. (1194-5), leaving Walter and Roger both under age. Hugh Murdock (or Murdac) gave 100 marks for the wardship of Walter, the heir. He (Walter) came of age 8th Richard I. (1196-7), paying ten marks for scutage, 10th John (1208-9), and was a great benefactor to York Minster by confirming

* He gave the advowson of Skirpenbeck and fifty acres of arable land in that lordship to the Monastery at Whitby. ("Hist. Ant. Herts.")

the gifts of his father, but died 4th February, 13th Henry III. (1228-9), without issue. His wife, Agnes de Athewicke, is mentioned in "Inq. Post Mortem," 30th Henry III., No. 45. Roger de Chauncy, brother and heir of Walter, married Preciosa . . . , and died 15th Henry III. (1230-1), leaving two sons, Robert and Hugh. The latter became Lord of the Manor of Upton, in Northamptonshire.

Robert de Chauncy, son and heir of Roger, in 23rd Henry III. (1238-9), paid twenty-five marks for his five Knights' fees for the Barony of Skirpenbeck and sundry manors connected therewith. He married Margaret . . . , but did not long survive his father, for in 30th Henry III. (1245-6) the King gave Robert de Cuppings, in return for his services and £100, the custody of Thomas, the heir of Robert de Chauncy, till he reached his lawful age and marriage.* ("Excerpta de Rot. Fin.," vol. i., p. 458.) His son and heir, Thomas de Chauncy, at the age of twenty-three, in the 56th of Henry III. (1271-2), did homage to that king. He married Isabel, daughter and heir of Sir Philip de Chauncy, Lord of the Manor of Willington, Lincs., another branch of the same family. By this marriage he added largely to his estate. He was (Sir Henry Chauncy states) one of the Barons who joined in a letter to Pope Boniface in 1301, maintaining the King's right to Scotland against the pretensions of the Pope. He died on April 8th (or 29th), 2nd Edward II. (1309).

William de Chauncy, son and heir of Thomas, at the age of twenty, did homage on May 7th, 2nd

* This first Thomas is not specified in "Hist. Ant. Herts."

Edward II. (1309). He held, in addition to his Barony of Skirpenbeck, the manors of Willington, Hogham, Camelstown, Fridaythorp, and Thoralby. His death is recorded in "Inq. Post Mortem," 24th February, 17th Edward III. (1343-4).

Thomas de Chauncy,* son and heir of William, succeeded to the estates 17th Edward III. (1343-4), as in 1345-6 (19th Edward III.) he executed a deed confirming the gifts of his ancestors to the church of SS. Peter and Paul at Whitby, and adding a gift of his own. He died 49th Edward III. (1375-6), seised of the Manors of Skirpenbeck, Bugthorp, and Thoralby.

According to Sir Henry Chauncy, a second Thomas, the father of William, succeeded the first Thomas, son of the first William, and held the estates a short time. If there were *two* Thomases, it was the first that held for a brief period, but it is more probable there was but one, son of the first, and father of the last, William.

The first William died 17th Edward III. (1343-4). In the 31st of Edward III. (1357-8) Thomas Chauncy gave twenty marks for leave to enfeoff William, his first-born son (primogenitum), and Joan (Johannam), daughter of Sir Roger Bygot† (Knight), with certain lands and tenements in Thoralby and Skirpenbeck ("Rot. Orig. Abb.," vol. ii., p. 246); and the next year it appears ("Cal. Inq. Post Mort.," vol. ii., p. 208) that the said Thomas did enfeoff William, his son, and

* He, his son and grandson, are entitled *Sir* by Tucker in his pedigree of the Chauncys.

† Chauncy, Clutterbuck, and Burke call her Elizabeth and her father John.

“Joh’am,” his wife, with six bovates of land, etc., part of the Manor of Skirpenbeck.*

Thus in fifteen years after the death of the first William the second was already married, and his father in possession of the Barony. This was ninety-one years after 1268, when the father of the first William was twenty-three years old. There is a bare possibility that generations succeeded each other in this case so rapidly as they must have done had there been two Thomases between the two Williams, but it is more agreeable to the ordinary course of things to believe there was but one.

Tucker (*Chauncy Pedigree*) gives (Sir) William de Chauncy, Lord of the Manor of Skirpenbeck (“*Inq. Post Mortem*”), 9th September, 22nd Richard II. (1398), as son and heir of (Sir) Thomas. He received from King Richard confirmation of all his titles, charters, and liberties. In the 22nd Richard II. (1398-9) he obtained licence from that king to alienate his Manor of Skirpenbeck with the title, and other

* The Surtees Society’s volume, “*Testamenta Eboracensia*,” 1836 (2), at p. 128, gives “*Testamentum Domini Johanniss Bygod Militis*” (proved 6th May, 1389), which contains this legacy: “*Item lego Johannæ Chauncy sorori meæ unum cipum de argento.*”

The learned editor adds on the same page this note: “The Bigods of Settrington were descended from Ralph Bigod (a younger son of Hugh Bigod, brother to Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk), which Ralph married Bertha, daughter of Thomas Furnival, Lord of Hallamshire.”

The Bigods of Settrington and the Chauncys of Skirpenbeck were almost neighbours in Yorkshire, and from an early date. At p. 31 of Glover’s “*Visitation of Yorkshire*,” edited by Joseph Foster (1875), we find in a return of tenants *in capite* of King John in Yorkshire in 1213 these two entries in juxtaposition:—

“Walterus de Cancy, 5 Feoda de Skerpinbec :
Hugo Bigod, 9 Feoda de Honore de Settrington.”

The 12th volume (“*Yorkshire Inquisitions*”), dated 1892, of the Yorkshire Archaeological and Topographical Association (Record Series), contains interesting references to early members of the Chauncy family.

estates in Yorkshire.* Besides obtaining on lease the Manor of Pishiobury from Baron Scroop, of Bolton, Yorks., at a yearly rental of £12, he purchased considerable estates in Stepney, where he died and was buried. He left three daughters and one son, John.

John Chauncy, of Stebenheath (Stepney), son and heir of William de Chauncy, the last Baron of Skirpenbeck, married (*ante* 1418) Margaret, one of the co-heirs of William Giffard, of Samford, Essex, and Gedlestone (or Gilston), Herts. He died February 22nd, 22nd Henry VI. (1435-6), and was buried at Stepney.

John Chauncy, † son and heir of John, married Ann, daughter of John Leventhorp, of Shingey Hall. He died May 7th, 1479, and was buried in the church of Sawbridgeworth. He left three sons and six daughters.

John Chauncy, son and heir of John, married Alice, a daughter of Thomas Bryce (or Boyse). He died the 8th June, 1510, leaving three sons, John, George and William, and was buried at Sawbridgeworth.

John Chauncy, son and heir of John, married Elizabeth, widow of Richard Manfield, by whom he acquired a considerable accession to his estates. She died 10th November, 1531. He married a second

* Clutterbuck states that "Sir William de Chauncy mortgaged the Barony of Skirpenbeck to the Earl of Westmoreland for £10,000, to be paid on a certain day, but the place of payment being omitted, the Earl absconded till the day of payment was past, and the Barony became forfeited, the Earl seizing the same to his own use." This story is probably apocryphal.

† Tucker says he was Lord of the Manor of Skirpenbeck, but this seems unlikely, as it was alienated by his grandfather.

time Katherine . . . , who died without issue on 30th April, 1535. He died 8th June, 1546, leaving three sons, Maurice, Henry, and Robert.

Maurice, the eldest son, was educated at Oxford, studied common law at Gray's Inn, and finally became a Carthusian monk of the Charterhouse. At the Dissolution, although taken into custody for denying the King's supremacy, he escaped, and settling at Bruges, became Prior to a Foundation of the Order there. He came back to England during Mary's reign and was appointed her confessor, but at her death returned to Bruges, where he died 2nd July, 1581.*

Henry Chauncy, second son and heir of John Chauncy, married first Lucy . . . , by whom he had John, George, and Edward. She died 25th April, 1566. His second wife was Jane Salisbury. It is stated ("Hist. Ant. Herts") that she tried to deprive the first wife's children of their estate, but her death, on 12th December, 1579, frustrated the design. The family at that time were possessed of the Manors of East Latham and Crayford in Kent, Barcomb in Sussex, Over Hall, Nether Hall, and Giffords in Herts, Great and Little Sampford, Hemstead, and Passebury in Essex—ten Manors in four counties. He built a house called New Place on his Manor of Giffords in Gilston, Herts, to which he removed, and where he resided at the time of his death on April 14th, 1587. He was buried in Gilston church.

John Chauncy, son and heir-apparent of Henry, married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Holliday, by

* A list of books attributed to him is given in "Hist. Ant. Herts."

whom he had one son. He (John) died in his father's lifetime, and was buried on 11th November, 1572, in Gilston church. William, his only son, heir to his grandfather, died at some date and place unknown, after a spendthrift, wasteful life. According to the "Hist. Ant. Herts," "his body was composed of a delicate shape, adorned with a beautiful aspect and a merry countenance; he was endowed with a great wit, a fluent tongue, a rare voice improved by skill in music, which rendered him acceptable to all companies; very grave among sober men, very courtly among ladies, very jocose among scholars, very prodigal among young gentlemen, and very extravagant in wild company. He married several wives but had no children; however, these humours consumed his estate; then he travelled beyond the seas, and died in some remote place unknown to his relations."

George Chauncy, second son of Henry, thus became the representative of the family. He married in 1569 Jane, daughter and heir of John Cornwall, of Yardley or Ardeley, by which marriage he became possessed not only of the Manor of Ardeley, but of several other manors and estates, in addition to those inherited from his father, and he also purchased the spendthrift William's Gilston estates. He had several children by Jane Cornwall—Henry, Charles, and four daughters—and after her death in 1582 married Agnes (Ann), widow of Edward Humberston, by whom he had George, Edward, and Charles, and four daughters. He died in 1625, and was buried at Barking, and was succeeded by Henry Chauncy, grandfather of the subject of this biography. He married Anne Aleyne,

of Haseleigh, Essex, and died April, 1631, leaving three sons, Henry, John, and Thomas.

Henry Chauncy, father of Sir Henry Chauncy, was born in 1600. He married Anne Parke, of Tottenham, and by her had four sons, Henry, John, George and Peter, and three daughters. He is the first of the family of whom we have any real knowledge. He was unquestionably a man of method and precision, as evidenced by a book of accounts A.D. 1631-1651 in the possession of Major Chauncy. This was originally owned by George Chauncy, who died in 1624, and was used by him as a kind of commonplace book. At his death it was reversed, and contains on the first two pages memoranda respecting the Ardeley Bury estate from 1625 to 1627, probably in the handwriting of his son Henry. The accounts consist mainly of receipts and expenditure, but include his general expenditure also. The receipts extend over twenty years, but they are not complete, some years being only represented in part and several omitted altogether. The payments are complete, and are divided into two classes—one comprising the "business" expenditure and the other that for housekeeping, the distinction between the two, however, being by no means sharply preserved. Together they appear to include his entire outlay for each year, the details of which are entered with the utmost minuteness. There are memoranda of sums owed by him and owing to him, and those received and paid by him on particular accounts, together with the precise amount of his hay and corn for many years, as well as of his timber felled and sold. The accounts also disclose

references to the births and education of his children. Moreover, they are curious because they record the purchase during a score years of almost every article of farming and domestic use, from hay, wheat, horses, cattle, meat and clothes, down to a dust basket and a mouse trap. From them some idea may be formed of the kind and mode of life of a country gentleman of that period.

From a year taken at random from the 25th March, 1635 (the years in these accounts commence at that date), to the 25th March, 1636, his receipts appear to have been £431 9s. 5d., and his payments £471 10s. 9d., but how much of the former sum represents nett income it is not easy to determine, for sales and purchases of horses, cattle, etc., are included therein. Since, however, he appears to have attended the Assizes—and to have associated with neighbours in good position—Sir John Boteler of Watton, Sir Edward Chester of Barkway, and Sir Thomas Hewett of Sawbridgeworth—it may be inferred that his means were not so far inferior to theirs as to disqualify him from mixing with them on pretty equal terms. His house, Ardeley Bury, we know from the remains still existing, was a large one. The rent he paid for Ardeley was £43 13s. 4d., but this sum may have included part, if not the whole, of the estate. His establishment seems to have included a man-servant and two maidservants, with the occasional help of a nurse, although it may have varied during the twenty years. His family in 1648 comprised himself, his wife and seven children, four boys and three girls. In 1647 his eldest son was at Cambridge University, his

second son at the Bishop's Stortford Grammar School, and three of his daughters were also at school at Bishop's Stortford. The life of the family was one of rude plenty. He had several horses, and was constantly to be found engaged in various business at Hertford, Hitchin, Baldock, Biggleswade, Royston and Cambridge, and frequently in London, where he was sometimes accompanied by his wife. In the earlier years to which the accounts refer these journeys were made on horseback, but at a later period he frequently made use of the Ware and Hertford coach, the fare being three shillings. Dress figures as a considerable item in the expenditure, and both he and Mrs. Chauncy must have been, one would think, splendidly attired. Gay colours found favour with him, but in that it may be he only followed the prevailing taste. In his "Sinament (cinnamon) coulered cloth suite and coate," and his "Mounmouth Capp edged with a silver and gold bone lace, wth. a small gold and silver band," he could have cut no mean figure. A black "Satten gowne" for his wife, with trimmings and cost of making, came (in 1641) to £12 6s. 6d., a large sum surely for that time. The list he gives of his linen in 1634 exhibits an ample store, as does that of his "Pewter" utensils taken at the same date, at which period no mention is made of any silver plate, but subsequently in 1639 and after he laid out considerable sums in the purchase of some. Of anything in the way of taste or elegance in the adornment of his house there is not the faintest indication, except that upon two occasions he purchased "quarries of glasse wth. o^r armes paynted" to be placed

probably in some of the windows. Pictures or prints are never referred to. His "Orring Colered Bedde" and his "Sea greene curtains, vallen and testern wth. white and greene lace and fringe, and for the bedstead matt and cord," indeed point to his already noticed love of bright colours.

Of literature the traces are very small. With the exception of educational books for his children, some law books for his eldest son, Bibles and Testaments, and one or two religious works, there was no kind of literary food purchased for the family. Writers of merit were not wanting—Bacon, Donne, George Herbert, Jeremy Taylor, Herrick, Hobbes, Milton, Shakespeare; but doubtless their works were expensive, and perhaps considered beyond the means of men in his position. Of newspapers there is no trace, unless the *Newse Booke*, for which he very occasionally paid a penny or twopence, may be regarded as such.

The food was plentiful—beef, mutton, pork, chickens, turkeys, etc.—and the drink was beer supplemented by sack, claret and canary. The purchase of "tobacco" pipes is several times entered, but there is only one entry of the purchase of tobacco, and then only half a pound, which cost 1*s.* 6*d.*

The effects of the Civil War are apparent in the great and rapid increase in the amount paid for taxes, which must have proved a heavy strain upon his resources. Moreover, he had to equip and keep, if I interpret correctly some entries, one or two troopers, and seems himself to have had to undergo some sort of training. There is a memorandum, too, at the head of the account of his Tithe for 1647: "much of this

year's hay was spoyled wth. troops." Beyond this it would not seem that he suffered, and everything appears to have gone on as before the troubles. There is nothing to show to which side his political opinions inclined, unless the character of one or two of the books he bought may be supposed to point to his sympathy with the Puritans. Of his character little can be known. That he was active and industrious in the prosecution of his affairs may be inferred from the minuteness, accuracy, and perseverance with which every pecuniary transaction is recorded, and his various lawsuits may perhaps suggest vigilance and resolution in looking after his own interests. He may not have had much education, for had it been otherwise he would have been an exception to his class ; but the neatness and even beauty of his handwriting, taken with the general accuracy of his orthography, make it plain that he was well up to the average of his contemporaries, and he was evidently alive to the advantages of education by the pains he took to procure for his children the best at that time attainable. He was so far accomplished as to be musical, for he possessed a violin, and had his two elder sons taught to sing and play. He was no doubt kind and affectionate to his family—there are frequent entries of the purchase of toys, cakes, and presents for his children—and his supplies of money to his elder sons seem liberal.

The general result, then, of the investigation of his Book of Accounts seems to exhibit him as a not very extensive landed proprietor, finding his chief interest and occupation, if not solely absorbed, in the management of his estate. All that was done was done by

himself alone, without the intervention of any agent, and every entry in the accounts is made by his own hand. He had tenants to whom he let his land, and from them he received the rents himself. In education he was presumably on a level with those of his own rank, and was respectable and amiable in the relations of life—a figure, if not distinguished, at least devoid of serious defects, and one for whom his descendants need feel no shame.

At the date when these accounts end he was little over fifty years old. He reached the patriarchal age of eighty-one, and it is to be regretted that the accounts that he no doubt kept during the last thirty years of his life have not been preserved. His will is a somewhat lengthy document, but has, I believe, never been printed, though of sufficient interest to be given here. The original will is not filed at the Probate Office.

“ Most Glorious and Eternal God, Father of Pity, Mercies and Comfort, I bless and prayse Thee for all Thy mercyes showed unto me in protecting and preserving me from my first being to this present. Humbly beseeching Thee still to continue Thy favour unto me and to direct and guide me by Thy Holy Spirit in the right way of the Commandments and to assist and bless me in the business I am now about for the making of my last will and disposing of the small Estate I now have and have the power to dispose of and to give a blessing unto it in pursuance whereof I Henry Chauncy of Erdley als Yardley in the Countie of Hertf. Esq. being in reasonable good health and understanding (I bless God for it) but being aged and

subject to many distempers and infirmities and often meditating on the uncertainty and sudden change of this mortal life and much desiring to leave my poor house and family in as good order as I can at my death and to prepare and fit myself for a better life I do make ordain and publish this my last Will as followeth Revoking and disannulling all former Wills by me made. And in the first place I commit my soul unto the Divine protection of my most Gracious God and Creator trusting wholly in His mercy and goodness (although I am a vile and wretched sinner) yet through the only merits, death, passion, intercession, mediation of Jesus Christ my dear Saviour and Redeemer for to have full pardon of all my crimes and transgressions and to enjoy eternal life, bliss and happiness with Him in His Heavenly Kingdom. And as for my body my desire is to have it devoutly buried in Erdley Chancel, between my father's gravestone and my son George his grave in a plain sober civil way for I much dislike the rudeness and disorders which are at many burials. And as for my temporal estate, which it hath pleased my good God of His mercy to bless me with at this time, I do dispose of it as followeth. And first my Will is that all my just debts shall be paid by my Executors as soon as conveniently may be after my decease. Also I do give unto the poor people of Erdley aforesaid three pounds to be distributed among them by my Executors hereafter named or by their appointment in an indifferent way according to their several needs and povertyes either at my burial or within a week or a month after as to them shall seem most convenient.

Also I do give and bequeath unto my loving wife Anna all the moneys she hath gotten or saved which is in her own custody or which she hath lent out either upon speculations or without either in my name or in any other name the bonds bills or writings for which are in her own custodie. And I do give unto my said wife ten pounds for to buy her mourning. Also I do give unto my said wife half my plate and all the plate which I had of Mrs. Cecilia Smith and the other half of my plate I do give unto my sons and daughters who shall be living at the time of my decease to be equally divided amongst them which I would have done by exchanging it for a several piece of plate for every one of them on which I would have my arms to be engraven with the two first letters of my names. Also I do give unto my said wife one-half of my linen and the other half of it I do give unto my son his four daughters, Anne, Jane, Martha and Mary and to my son John his daughter Joyce* to be equally parted between them five. Also I do give unto my said wife our wrought bedd with all the bedding and furniture belonging to it and one-half of all my other household goods except my copper brewing vessels and all things in the meale loft or chamber which with the other half of my household goods I do give unto my son Henry and if my said wife and son do not agree in parting of any household stuff and goods then my will is that Mr. John Sykes and Thos. Randall of Berden Green shall indifferently part them equally between them. And I do desire my wife for to give and bestow her goods and moneys which her necessary occasions will

* Anne, age 22 ; Jane, 21 ; Martha, 18 ; Mary, 9 ; Joyce, 18.

permit her to spare in her lifetime amongst her own children and grandchildren in an indifferent and impartial way at her death according to their deserts and necessities. Also my will is that my said wife do peaceably hold and enjoy all the Tithe corn and hay of the Parish of Erdley or Yardley, which I have by my writings whatsoever or formerly conveyed settled or entrusted in any persons for her use and benefit together with the barn Tythe Barn and the rooms in the new building in my house which are mentioned in my writings which I have formerly made for her maintenance and benefit and the biggest room in the house lately built in the timber yard and the orchard called the Horn common and the pasture close called the New close which lyeth by the square orchard and Shannon (or Shancon) Valley toward the North and East and is part of the close called Anly corner together with their and every of their appurtenances with eight hundred of good faggots to be delivered unto her by my son Henry at the house in the Timber Yard yearly every year for and during the term of her life according as I have already settled the same by writings under my hand and seal which I hope are good in law but if there should be any error or defect found in them in law that may hinder my said wife of anything that was intended for her then for the better confirming of my said wife's right and estate to her in what I intended she should have and enjoy out of my estate for her present maintenance during her life I do by this my last Will give devise and confirm unto my said wife all and whatsoever means profits and estate I have at any time formerly conferred on her by my

writings whatsoever. And whereas my said wife according to some writings made by me for settling of most part of the Tythe corn and hay of the Parish of Erdley or Yardley aforesaid on her for the term of her life is for that time to pay the yearly rent of all the Parsonage either to the Dean and Chapter of S. Paul's or to my son Henry (which I conceive to be unreasonable) and whereas I and my wife in my son George his lifetime did lend unto my son George and disburse and pay for his debts above five hundred pounds besides the portion I had before given him to start and set him up in his trade for which moneys so lent and paid to my said son George he did confess a judgment of five hundred pounds to my son Henry aforesaid in trust for the securing of the said moneys which I and my wife had lent and paid for my son George. By virtue of which judgment my said son Henry soon after the death of my son George entered upon my son George's estate with my consent which in money, stores, household stuff and debts did amount to about eight hundred pounds according to several notes which I have seen whereof out of which I was in hope my said son Henry would have paid me and his mother all or greater of the moneys which were owing to us by his brother George but what through my son Henry his slowness in putting off his brother's shop, house and wares and delaying the getting of his debts and trusting too much to others for to do those businesses for him (as I suppose) I and his mother have suffered much loss thereby for I have had out of my said son George his estate for myself and daughters but about two hundred and four or five

pounds and forty pounds more I wished him to pay to my son George his apprentices which I think he did perform and what is become of the rest of my son George his estate my son Henry and others who he entrusted and employed about it best knows for his mother had not anything out of it towards the moneys which she had lent to my son George or paid for him. Wherefore in consideration of the loss and damage which my wife hath and may suffer by these two passages I do grant devise and give unto my said wife for the tenure of her life my Messuage called Lights at Woodend in the Parish of Erdley als Yardley aforesaid and the barns and outhouses thereunto belonging and the barn lately set up in the close over against the said Messuage and the orchard and the meadow ground, pasture and arable land thereunto belonging now in the tenure or occupation of Michael Ireland, Richard Bird and George Harman, together with all ways rights and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging. Provided that she keeps the said houses and fences thereunto belonging in good repair. Also it is my will that for what time it shall please God that I shall depart this life before Harvest my said wife shall have and take out of my goods and chattels twelve pounds by the quarter of the year for her present maintenance until the next harvest shall be inned and ended. Also I do give and bequeath and devise unto my son John and to his heirs my two tenements in Rushden in the county of Hertf. with the ground barn all the outhouses and all ways water courses rights members and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging which I purchased of Henry

Pollard of London citizen. Also I do give unto my said son John one hundred pounds of lawful money to be employed for the putting forth of some of his children into some employment or calling. Also I do give and bequeath and devise unto my son Peter and to his heirs right interest and estate which I have in the Free Chapple of St. Thomas in Kenwick within the Town of Tilney in the county of Norfolk* with all the several Tithes profits and commodities whatsoever thereunto belonging in the Towns of Clenchwarton,† Tilney, Islington‡ or any other town or parish whatsoever together with all the leases, assignments and writings thereunto belonging. Also my will is that my Executors hereafter named in full satisfaction and discharge of all gifts legacies or bequests willed given or bequeathed unto my said son Peter by my late loving Aunt Mrs. Judith Chauncy§ and my loving friend Edward Head deceased and in full for the portion which I now intend to give him to pay unto my son Peter within one year of my decease Two hundred pounds of lawful money of England provided that he at the receipt of the said Two hundred pounds do give unto my Executors a good and sufficient discharge in law for the legacies aforesaid and for his portion but if he shall refuse to do it then my Will is that

* Tilney All Saints is a village five miles W.S.W. from King's Lynn. Sir Thomas de Ingoldesthorpe founded a chapel or oratory in the Manor of Kenwick in Tilney for the ease of his family and heirs; no tithe or obligation belonged to it, and there was no institution or induction, as the Inquisition found in 1st Richard II., but it was a false return. (Blomfield's "Hist. Norfolk," vol. ix., p. 19.)

† A village two miles from King's Lynn.

‡ Islington is a village five miles from King's Lynn and about one mile from Tilney.

§ She left Peter a legacy of £20.

my Executors do forbear the payment of the said Two hundred pounds until such time as he will do it which portion of his should have been more if after I had at great charge in bringing of him up at school to fit him for a calling and putting of him forth in several hopeful ways of living he would have endeavoured himself in any good way for his own good and livelihood. Also my Will is that if my son Henry do put forth his son Henry into any of the two Universities of Cambridge or Oxford that then my Executors do pay twenty pounds by the year for his maintenance in the University for three years if he so long continue there. Also I do give unto my son Henry his daughter Anne twenty pounds and to his son Henry aforesaid and to his son John and to his daughter Martha ten pounds apiece and to my daughter Halls son William and to all the rest of my grandchildren I do give five pounds apiece for to be paid to every one of them at their several ages of eighteen years if they live to that age in Yardley Church Porch.

Also I do give and bequeath unto everyone of my sons and daughters and sons-in-law and daughters-in-law who shall be living at my decease twenty Nobles apiece for to buy them mourning. Also my Will is that the legacies before given by me to my grandchildren shall for such of them who are under the age of eighteen years be disposed of by my Executors for their best benefit until they obtain the age of eighteen years and then and there paid to them with the profit thereof. Also my Will is whensoever the lease of the Manor Rectory and Woods in Yardley is renewed by the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's in London my

Executors do pay One hundred pounds towards the fine for the renewing of the said lease. Also whereas I have lately built a little house containing four rooms in the north east corner of my close called Great Reeding by the highway called Reven Street and have enclosed and laid to the said house ten roodes of ground which said house and ground I do give grant and devise unto George Bigg and John Thourment Churchwardens and to John Crane and George Haman overseers for the poor at present for this parish of Erdley als Yardley and to their successors in the same offices in the said parish of Erdley als Yardley for ever in trust for the use and benefit only of some of the poorest aged or impotent people of this parish of Erdley to be from time to time placed therein for dwelling by and with the approbation and consent of my son Henry his heirs and assignees together with a convenient way out of the said Reven Street through part of the said close near to the said house. Also I do grant and devise unto the above named officers and to their successors in the same offices in this parish of Erdley als Yardley aforesaid my Pightle of pasture or hay ground being one acre and a half more or less lying at the east end of Cromer field near to Hoggelders Hill in Yardley which I lately enclosed out of the said Cromer field in Yardley als Erdley aforesaid to the intent that the said officers and their successors out of the wood in the trees and hedges thereunto belonging and out of the rent or profit of the said Pightle every year do provide two loads of faggots and carry and lay them at the said house in Reeding between

Michaelmas and Christmas for firing for the poor people who shall be placed and dwell in the said house and likewise out of the profits of the said Pightle do repair the said house as often as it shall need repairing. And I do give unto Mr. John Sykes Twenty shillings. Also I do give unto my loving friends Thos. Randall of Barden Green and to his wife and to Mrs. Anne Burnaff twenty shillings a piece for to buy them rings. And I do give unto my sister Starr five pounds and unto May Morris Forty shillings by the year to be paid to her quarterly by ten shillings the quarter of the year for and during the tenure of her life by my Executors. And I do give unto every one of my servants in my house who shall serve me at the time of my Death Twenty shillings apiece. And whereas my son Henry at several times while he lived at Brent Pelham hath borrowed of me several sums of money according as he did desire it of me Three hundred and fifty pounds as may appear by his hand to my books of laying out or accounts and by several of his letters to me for to borrow the same at several times and whereas for my security for his repayment thereof he hath confessed a judgment to me of the sum of Three hundred and fifty pounds which said sum I have freely lent him before his coming from Brent Pelham to help and pleasure him which hath been some prejudice and hindrance to me he having never paid any part of it which said debt I did intend to have forgiven him and I might have been in a condition for to have done it if he had carefully prosecuted the putting of his brother George's shop house and wares and the getting in of

his debts for me and not delayed that business and trusted too much to others to do it which hath proved much to my and my wife's great loss.

Nevertheless my Will is that if my son Henry within one year after my death shall pay unto my Executors or to the survivor of them one hundred pounds of lawful money of England and within two years after my death one hundred pounds more of the like lawful money and within three years after my death Fifty pounds more of like lawful money for the use and benefit of my said son Henry his six children or so many of them as shall live to the age of eighteen years to be divided equally then and to be employed towards the putting of them into some way to live if it may be conveniently done otherwise to be paid to each of them for to make the best use of every one of their parts at their several ages of eighteen years which if my said son Henry shall will and truly perform then my Will is that thereupon my Executors or the survivor of them shall acknowledge satisfaction of my said son Henry his said judgment to wit of Three hundred and fifty pounds and discharge him thereof. And for the perfecting of this my last Will and Testament I do make constitute and ordain my loving Wife Anna and my loving son John Chauncy my Executors and I do give unto either of them fifteen pounds apiece for their trouble and pains in executing and well performing of this my last Will. And I do allow them to look out of my goods and moneys all their just charges and expenses which they shall be occasioned to lay out about the execution of this my Will. And if it should please God that my

son John should die before the business of this my Will be all performed then I do desire and appoint Thomas Randall of Barden Green aforesaid to be my Executor in my son John his place and to help and assist my Wife in the performance of this my Will which if the said Thomas Randall shall undertake and perform then I do give unto him twenty nobles for his trouble and pains therein and also all his expenses about the business of this my Will to be taken by him out of my goods and chattels. And I do give unto my Executors as full power and right as I myself have or might hereafter have for to demand sue and recover by law and receive all sums of money or debts due or owing unto me by virtue of any Mortgage, Judgment, Bond, Bill, book or any other ways, yet my Will is that my said Executors shall not take any advantage of any forfeiture upon the securities of any debts due to me but only for to take the principal interest and such charges as they shall be forced to lay out for the recovering of any of the debts which are owing to me.

And my Will further is that my said Executors shall abate everyone of my debtors who shall pay the moneys which they owe me within six months after my decease wait or delay three months of the interest which shall be due for the same. And that my Executors shall be accountable for no more than I order them to receive. Also I do Will devise and hereby give full power unto my said Executors or to the survivor of them for to sell convey and secure by good assurance in law unto what person or persons they or either of them shall conceive most convenient

my piece of eight acres of land be it more or less which lyeth in Collington hill in the parish of Erdley als Yardley aforesaid which I purchased of Justinian Sherborn gent and Philadelphia his wife for the raising of money for the paying and discharging of my legacies before mentioned. And all the rest of my lands in Yardley except the Pightle of one acre and a half in Cromer field by the green lane at Hoggelder Hill which I have before given for the providing of wood for the poor people who shall live in the little house in Reeding and for the repairing of the same house and except the ground enclosed and laid to the said little house and likewise except the estate which I have before given to my wife for the term of her life out of my messuage called Leighs and part of the lands thereunto belonging before mentioned I do give unto my son Henry and to his heirs for ever.

In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal to these three sheets of paper. And I do declare and publish them to be my last Will and Testament and I do revoke disannul and make void all Wills by me formerly made the eight and twentieth of July in the two and thirtieth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Charles the Second over England etc. and in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and eighty.

HE. CHAUNCY.

Subscribed sealed and published in the presence of Thomas Sell, John Mardell, John Chapman."

(Proved at London January 22, 1681.)

This Will exhibits him as a man of strong opinions, which he freely expressed: witness his remarks directed against funeral feasts and extravagant display, and his comment upon the payment to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. The loans to his sons, too, which must have made serious inroads upon his capital, are somewhat bitterly alluded to. £500 lent to George was, owing to the administrator's lack of business ability (apparently), considerably reduced, for the assets of the estate, estimated to produce £800, only realised a trifle over £200. The £350 lent to Henry, at great inconvenience to himself, was never repaid, but the Testator dealt fairly with this debt by arranging for the repayment of £250 only, spread over a term of years, which sum was to be divided among the debtor's children. The reference to Peter does not exhibit that individual in a pleasing light; he seems to have aroused his father's wrath by neglecting his opportunities, and some difficulty was evidently anticipated over his probable refusal to accept the legacy of £200, doubtless expecting a larger sum. His charitable gifts were not illiberal. The almshouse at Great Reedings has long since vanished, and the 1½ acres in Cromer Field is not now identifiable. A pleasing feature of the Will is the Testator's references to his wife, whom he seems to have held in great esteem and affection. A curious survival is the instruction to pay certain small legacies in the church porch, a method of publicity that must at that period have largely fallen into desuetude.

The following letters addressed to Henry Chauncy, in the possession of Major Chauncy, although in some

few places indecipherable through age, are worthy of permanent record in the form of an Appendix to the account of the Historian's father. They also throw light upon the social life of the period.

CHAUNCY LETTERS.

No. 1.*

HATFIELD WOODHALL, 29th September, 1627.

JOHN SHOTBOLT TO HENRY CHANCEY THE ELLDER
AT YEARDLEYBURYE.

Kinde Mr. Chancy, my true love remembred to you and all yours with thanks for yor Curtesyes.

Sir John Buttler entendinge this winter (if God permit) to plant an orcharde, is desirus to be beholding to you for some yonge trees, of Apples, peares, and wardens, hee knowing well that the change from youre heauy claye to his light stronge grauell is most like to proue such as may best answere his laboures and charge. But more especially, to be assured from you that the plants received from you shalbe such and the same that you shall affirm them to bee, wch is a thinge not usually to be expected from those that make sale of such commodetyes. These are therefore to pray you to lett me understand from you how you cann furnish him with some such allredy younge grafted trees, of what sorts and the number, of what age, and your opinion when to remove them and how to use them to the best auayle, and that if at any time yor occasions to London or otherwise into these parts to take this howse in your ways, hee would be gladd to bee acquainted with you, the sooner the better to have your helpe in the plott and will much rather traffick with you herein and yeeld you full recompense then any other not like to deale so fayrely by him, and would dispite him much to sett trees and loose time in the growinge and in the end prooue to beare fruite of another kinde and good for nothinge.

* This letter is dated from Woodhall, Watton, the house of Sir John Boteler, who is referred to in it, and who was cousin to the writer. See Chauncy's "Ant. Herts," pp. 61, 309. Woodhall was burned down in 1790.

I presently mett with Whittingham after I parted from you, whoe was very inquisitive whether I woulde goe and where hee might write to me, and I tould him I was to goe into Yorksheire. But if hee would write to mee at any time, lett the letter be delivered to Mr. Chancyes own hands, to bee sent to mee at all times, for once in a fortnight or 3 weekes I shall visitt Mr. Chancy in mine owne person or give order where to send to mee. Commend my love to all that loue mee (if you may know them) howsoever know that yo selfe hath worthely merrited the true loue and entyre affection off mee.

JOHN SHOTBOLT.

SHOTBOLT.—This family resided at or near Ardeley, and the name frequently appears in the parish register. The following entry among the burials refers, I suppose, to the writer of this letter, “1656-7 John Shotbolt of Luffenhall, 3 Jan.” Luffenhall was about a mile and a half from Ardeley.

Unfinished sketch of reply to No. 1.

Worthy Sir, I received yor ltt. desiring to effect as much as you have required thereby, the truth is, I am pvided of divers plants of Aples as pearemaynes runnits and ffrench and gree . . . pippins, peares and plomes and cherries I have none of I can spare and for any apple trees they are very smale and not above three years graft, for such if yt it shale please Sir John use one or two hundredth of them they are at his comand uppo as reasonable terms as he cann desire, ffor the ordering of his ground I cannot well give any directions because you have not expressed the present use of the ground whether it be pasturable, digged, or plowed; if it be digged or plowed, it doth require the lesse labour and charge, yn pasturable and a dry gravelly ground.

To his very loving and beloved Neighbour and true freind Mr. Henry Chancey the ellder, Yeardley burye, hast these.

No. 2.

WOODHALL, 29 June, 1642.

PHILIP BOTELER TO HENRY CHAUNCY AT YARDLY.

(He was the son of the Sir John Boteler referred to above.
See Chauncy's "Ant. Herts," p. 309.)

Worthy Sir. My loue and best respects to yr selfe and my good frend ye best beloved first psented. My brother being full of business desyred me to write to y^u from him in behalfe of poore Robinson. It seems he hath trespassed his neigboure Bardolph, which he doth confesse, and is willing to give reasonable satisfaction, would desyre y^u to take a little paynes in it and to persuade yr neigboure to a reasonable agreement, it is a deede of charity to releave the poore and blessed are the peace makers, and my brother will take it kindly from y^u thus, being in great hast, and being redy to go to church this fast daye, with my loue and best wishes to y^u and yrs I rest

yr assured louing and faithfull ffreind,

PHILIP BOTELER.

ffrom Woodhall this xxix of June, 1642.

pardon my hast which would not give me leave to Seale. remember me to all my . . . with you, . . . my Brother desyred me further to tell y^u that if yr neigboure will not be satisfyed with reason, that then he will take a course that this man shalbe admitted to same, in forma pauperis.

To his esteemed louing ffreind Mr. Henry Chauncy at his house in Yardly. this present.

BOTELER.—The "fast daye" mentioned was one of the monthly fasts usual at that time. They were instituted by proclamation of Charles I., dated Whitehall, January 8th, 1641, on account of the "lamentable and distressed estate of his good subjects in his Majesty's Kingdom of Ireland." They commenced on the last Wednesday in February, 1641,

and were to continue "on the last Wednesday of every month during the troubles of the said Kingdom of Ireland." *See* "Rushworth's Collections," Part III., vol. i., p. 494 (Ed. 1792).

The fast was subsequently (24th April, 1642) revived and enforced with great severity by the Parliament, and largely used for party purposes. *See* Neale's "Hist. of Puritans," vol. iii., p. 37 (1822).

The keeping of the fast is frequently referred to in the newspapers of the day. Thus the very day here mentioned, 29th June, 1642: "Wednesday. The Houses kept the Fast at Saint Margarets, Westminster, Doctor Gouge preaching in the forenoon upon a text in the 5 Nehemiah last verse; and Master Will Sedgwick in the afternoon upon the 6 Esay and 7 verse. *See* "A perfect Diurnall of the Passages in Parliament from 27 of June to the 4 of July, 1642." London Printed 1642. No. 3. (Brit. Mus. Newspapers, No. 11). 29 June, 1642, being a Wednesday, was the Celebration of the Monthly Fast: *see* "Some speciall Passages from Westminster, London, Yorke, and other parts collected for the satisfaction of those that desire true information. From the 28 of June to the 5 of July, 1642." No. 6. (Brit. Mus. Newspapers, No. 11).

No. 3.

LONDON, 16 Sept., 1646.

EDWARD CLARKE TO MR. CHANCEY AT YARDLEY.

Mr. Chancey, Our louue and best respects remembred unto you and your Mises and all ye rest of sd frends.

Thanking you for all your loue and kindnesse wee have reced. from you, hoping you are all in good health, wee are all at this part; So according to order I have sent you yor rundlet of Cenairy, so I rest, Sir,

EDUARD CLARKE.

LONDON 16th 7bre 1646.

To his much respected and loueing ffrend Mr. Chancey at Yardley. These psent.

CLARKE.—“ye runlet of Cenairy” seems to have held 3 gals. 3 quarts and 1 pint “at 4/- per gal.” and cost 15/6, and was paid for 16 Sept., 1646. *See* Henry Chauncy’s Book of Accounts (fo. 83).

No. 4.

WARE, 21 Oct., 1648.

ROBERT PRYCE TO MR. CHAUNCY OF YARDLEY.

Mr. Chauncy. John Richardson was wth. Mrs. Meade and acquanted her yt aboute the midle of this nexte weeke yt you would be wth. her to pay in her muny, if not then on munday cum a sevenenighte at ye farthist; her demand is 113^l 10s 8d and she hathe promysed when you pay her the muny yt she will dele friendly wth. me. Soe yt I houpe yt she will abate me ye oide five pound in regard first yt her husband hathe had at the rest fifty pounds for intereste, and allsoe in regard yt she hathe put me to this unnesesurey charge of 50li 10s 8d: pray ser, let me intreate you to due what you can in it, and I shall be ingaged to you for the same. Sr, I will not be unmindfull of you in seeking wth. the Steward conserning yor fine. I pray will you be mindfull in sendinge of the release of the 3 acr of land yt duth belongeth to my wife when you send the writing to be seled at london; for my wife blameth me for negligence in regarde yt I had it not, respectes unto you and Mr. Chauncy remembred. I rest yors to comand

ROBERT PRYCE.

WARE, 21 of Oct, 1648.

To his ho: friend Mr. Chauncy of Yardly this presente.

Leve this at the Kinges armes at Mrs. Kinges to be d’d to Mr. Chauncyes man wch will be ther this daye.

PRYCE.—30 Oct., 1648 “paid to Mrs. Eliz. Mead, Widd, upon her surrender of Longe Mead £113. 15.” (fol. 18). This entry in H. Chauncy’s Book of Accounts explains the demand of £113. 10. 8. mentioned in the letter.

It would seem that Pryce had mortgaged Longe Mead to Mrs. Mead, and that Chauncy paid off the mortgage. Pryce had probably purchased the property and left part of the purchase money on mortgage. Mr. Chauncy’s man to whom the letter was to be delivered was Richard Christy, and his wages were £1 a quarter (fo. 18).

No. 5.

28th November.

FRANCIS CLERKE TO HENRY CHAUNCY AT YARDLEY.

Worthie Sr.—I have written two letters to my brother to put him in mind of his promise concerning ye paiment of ye monie yt I bor . . . of you, to ye one whereof hee sent mee an answre, wherein . . . told mee hee had sett downe his resolution but would not dete . . . was that was, so yt I remaine as doubtfull as I did befo . . . Perchance he hath revealed his mind more fully to you, which if it bee soe I shall intreat you to doe mee ye favour to acquaint mee with his intentions by ye next returne of this broome man, for I cannot rest satisfied untill I have taken some course for ye taking of this engagement, yeat allwaies acknowledging my selfe endebted unto you for manie other kindnesses received of you. so with my service psented to Mrs. Chauncy and ye rest of my cozens at Steunidge I rest, your most humble devoted servant,

FFRANCIS CLERKE.

November ye 28th.

To my much honoured freind—Mr. Henry Chauncey at his house at Yardley, this give.

CLERKE.—This letter is without date of year, but the following extracts from Chauncy's "Book of Accounts" may explain "ye monie yt I borrowed of you":—

"lent to my Cosen ffrancis Clerke of Sheffield the 20th of June 1646 £9" (fo. 93a).

"lent to my Cosen ffran. Clerke, for wch I have note under his hand the some of £7—July the 1st 1647" (fo. 93b).

No. 6.

MARY STERNE TO MR. CANCEY, OF WARE.

Mr. Cancey, I had write to you here fore this time but that I have write a letter to Mr. Gibson and have not received anser from him, as for your metinge. I am very willinge that you sould come, and should in the sam minde I was in, and if Mr. Lamas come with you I should be glad, for it will save sending to Ware for my halfe yeaeres rente; for hoping to see you heare. I reste your frinde,

MARY STERNE.

ffor Mr. Cancy of Ware this day.

STERNE.—Without date. This letter is addressed to Ware, but it was probably meant for H. Chauncy, of Ardeley. At any rate it came into his hands, for it is covered with notes in his hand. The following entries occur in the parish register of Ardeley, and either of them may refer to this lady:—Baptism "1596 Marye Sterne dau of Willm, gent, 31 May." Marriage "1588 William Sterne gent and Mary Halfhicle, 17 Dec."

The notes and figures on the backs, etc., of these letters are in the handwriting of the younger Henry.

THE CHAUNCY ARMS.

At p. 25 of Mr. Foster's Edition (London, 1875), of Glover's Yorkshire Visitation, the Arms of De Vesci (a great Yorkshire and northern house), are given as Gules a Cross patonce Argent, and those of Chauncy as the same with a Lion Rampant Or on a chief azure, the resemblance of the latter to the former being possibly an instance of "Arms of Allegiance." The Chauncy quarterings of Albini and de Ros follow from the Chauncy-Giffard marriage through the earlier marriage of Ralph Giffard to Margery de Ros. Dugdale's "Baronage of England" may be examined as showing the earlier matches of Giffard de Ros and Bygod with the old houses. He also mentions the Barons of Skirpenbeck.

The authorities for the ancestry of Sir Henry Chauncy are:—

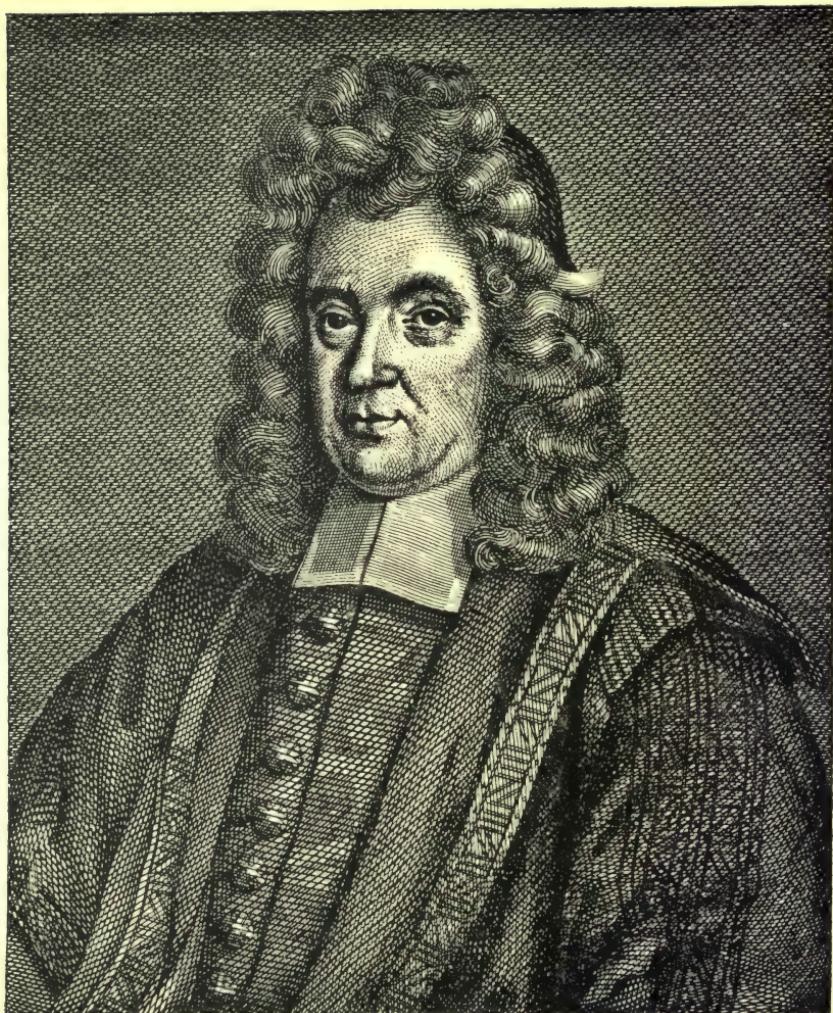
"Memorials of the Chaunceys," by William Chauncey Fowler, Boston. 1858. pp. 37, 38.

"Pedigree of the Family of Chauncy," compiled by Stephen Tucker, Esquire, Somerset Herald in Ordinary. 1884.

"Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica," 2nd Series, i., 21.

Chauncy's "Historical Antiquities of Hertfordshire." 1700. pp. 60, 61.

Clutterbuck's "History and Antiquities of the County of Hertford." 1821. Vol. ii., p. 400, 401.



S^r. HENRY CHAUNCY
of Yardley Bury, in the County of Hertford. Kn^t.
Serjeant at Law.

PART II.

LIFE.

HENRY, the first-born son of Henry Chauncy and Anne Parke, was born at Ardeley Bury on April 12th, 1632. He was baptized on the 24th of the same month. When only six years of age he was sent daily to Ardeley Vicarage for instruction at the hands of the Rev. Robert Sikes. At the age of nine he was sent to Stevenage Grammar School, the headmaster of which was Mr. Pierson. In the prospectus of the school (1905) it is stated that he was then residing at Chelsfield (Chisfield), but I am unaware of any evidence in support of this statement. The distance from Chisfield to Stevenage is about two miles, while Ardeley is some five miles away, so that it is just possible he may have boarded with his father's friends, the Throckmortons, at that time living at Chisfield Place in that hamlet. He attended the Grammar School for five years, being removed in 1646 to the Grammar School at Bishop's Stortford, then under the control of the Rev. Thomas Leigh, D.D., a man of high reputation and attainments. He was here, however, less than a year; for in 1647, at the age of fifteen, he was sent to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, but after a similar brief period he left the University. In 1649 we find him in London studying for the law, and on May 21st in the

same year he was admitted to the Society of the Middle Temple. On February 6th, 1654, at the age of twenty-two, he was occupying chambers in Inner Temple Lane, the precise location of which it is not now possible to define. All that is known for certain is that he occupied the chamber, "three pair of stairs high" in the Lane, that had previously belonged to Mr. Richard Vernon; but whether he lodged there or only used it as an office, there is nothing to show. The thoroughfare which led from Fleet Street, past the great doorway of Temple Church into Temple Cloisters, has altogether lost its ancient garb. On the east side, indeed, the wall of what is now called, or rather, calls itself, the Palace of Henry VIII., still remains much the same as it did in his day, but the west side has been entirely pulled down and rebuilt, and is now called Johnson's Buildings, in memory of the Doctor. Thus all traces of where Sir Henry's chambers stood have been lost.

On June 12th, 1656, he was called to the Bar, and his position being now, we may suppose, somewhat assured, we find him in 1657, when only twenty-five years of age, taking to himself a wife in the person of Jane Flyer (or Floyer, the name is spelt either way indifferently), the third daughter of Francis Flyer, of Brent Pelham Hall, a retired City merchant of considerable wealth, who had purchased the estate from Edward Newport just before the outbreak of the Civil War. At this period he was living (during the vacations presumably) at Brent Pelham, but whether at the Hall or at a house on the estate I have not been able to ascertain. His residence in the county thus

qualified him for the Commission of the Peace, to which he was appointed in 1661. Probably it was about this period that he borrowed certain sums of money, amounting in all to some £350, doubtless to assist him in his profession and in furnishing his home. This loan was never repaid in his father's lifetime, and although this seems somewhat to his discredit (his father's will certainly gives us that impression), I am inclined to think that he regarded it in the light of a deduction from the estate that would in the ordinary course of things fall to his share. The testamentary arrangement devised by his father (*see* p. 24) for the repayment of £250 of this money at considerable intervals was doubtless carried out, although we have no record of it. Probably before winding up the estate the executors took his bond for the due fulfilment of this undertaking.

His first son Henry was baptized at Brent Pelham on January 27th, 1661 (I have not been able to discover the date of his birth), but died in infancy, and was buried in Ardeley Church on December 7th, 1663. His second son, also named Henry, was baptized on April 26th, 1666, and a third son, John, on May 14th, 1667. The latter died at the comparatively early age of thirty-seven, and was buried in the Chancel of Ardeley Church on July 9th, 1704. The former died in 1703 and, although estranged from his father, was buried in the same place and a costly monument was erected to his memory.

His first daughter Anne was born in 1660 and, dying unmarried, was buried at Ardeley on June 30th, 1715.

The second daughter, Jane, was born in 1661, and was married to Rev. Francis Bragge, B.D.,* Vicar of Hitchin. He had a versatile but unprincipled son also in Holy Orders, but further reference will be made to him when dealing with the supposed case of witchcraft in which Sir Henry played so painful a part. The third daughter, Martha, was born in 1663, and was married to James Forester, of Broadfield, near Cottered. She died, aged seventy-eight, in 1741. The fourth daughter, Mary, was born in 1665, and married Humphrey Forester, brother to James, and heir-apparent to Sir Humphrey Forester, of Aldermaston, Berks. At his death in 1695, she married John Throckmorton, of Chisfield, near Graveley. The total, therefore, of his children by his first wife was seven—three sons and four daughters.

In February, 1669, his brother George died, apparently unmarried, and he, being constantly in London, became administrator (probably at his father's wish) to his brother's estate. Unfortunately,

* The Rev. Thomas Tipping, the caustic Vicar of Ardeley, and a contemporary cleric, says of him: "He was admitted into Wadham Coll. a Gent Comoner, June 1680, being seventeen years old, & 1683 entered on his Batch. of Arts Degree but never compleated it, but went to the Temple London for Law, but not profiting returned to Oxford. Took Orders. Was about five foot high & 29 Sept. 1686 he married Jane daughter of Sr. Henry Chauncy. . . . He got a Presentation to the Vicarage of Hitchin . . . & immediately wrote himself B.D. being so by his own making. He had two sons, one in Orders and curate at Bigleswade, Bedfordshire: died of the Small Pox, the other has many years rambled about with Gipsies & Beggars & lodged in Barns & is living 1750. Elizabeth a daughter married Wm. Barker of Hitchin, Attorney-at-Law, & is a Widow March 31, 1750. Jane married a Farmer near Luton, Bedfordshire, & has been long Dead. Mary married Leon. Chappelow, Arabick Professor of Cambr. & Rect. of Little Hormead. Living 1750. Phillipa married Henry Manning, Rector of Buckland, Hertfordshire. Hy. dyed 28. Oct. 1732. She 1750 still living a widow."

doubtless owing to his professional engagements absorbing all his time and energy, he left the realisation to others, with the result that, instead of the shop and stock realising £800, after paying expenses, the total sum was only a little over £200. He thus incurred his father's displeasure, duly set forth with bitter deliberation in his will.

On December 31st, 1672, Sir Henry's first wife died, leaving him with a young family; therefore it is not surprising to find him in 1674 taking to himself a lady of mature years as his second wife. She was Elizabeth, widow of John Gouldsmith, and daughter of Gregory Wood, of Stradsett, in Norfolk. The marriage took place on February 12th, 1673-4, and the bride's age is given as forty. In the same year, or the year afterwards, he was elected a Bencher of the Middle Temple, also a Justice of the Peace and Chief Burgess for the Borough of Hertford. On January 29th, 1675, being then in his forty-third year, he was appointed Steward of the Borough Court of Hertford. He was the last person to hold that title, as in 1680 Hertford obtained its charter and the office became merged in that of Recorder, to which he was duly appointed.

Scarcely two years had elapsed before he a second time became a widower. Elizabeth (cut off by the spotted fever in London) died on August 14th, 1677, without leaving any issue.

I am inclined to think this second marriage was scarcely a happy one, as instead of his wife being buried at Ardeley she was taken from London to Stradsett and interred with her first husband. The

inscription on the ledger stone by the south wall states :—

“ John Gouldsmith, Esq., son of John Gouldsmith, late of Wilby in the County of Suffolk, was buried the 23rd of January, 1669, aged 58 years. Also here resteth the body of Elizabeth, the relict of the aforesigned John, who departed this life August 14th, 1677.”

The only reference to her second husband is upon an achievement on the wall just above her burial place, containing her arms impaled between her two husbands’.

Doubtless for much the same reasons as inspired him to marry a second time, he, after a lapse of two years, took to himself a third wife. This lady was Elizabeth Thurston, daughter of Nathaniel Thurston, of Hoxne, Suffolk, and the marriage took place on September 25th, 1679. By her he had two children—Arthur, born in 1683, who, outliving his father, died in 1752, at Diss in Norfolk (it is from this son that the present Chauncy family are descended); and Elizabeth, born in 1690, dying unmarried in 1749.

It is probable that about this time he took up his abode at Hertford, if not permanently, at any rate during the Assizes and Sessions. The house occupied by him in the borough town (according to Turnor’s “History of Hertford,” 1830, p. 284) was the fine early seventeenth century residence known as Lombard House, on Bull’s Plain (*see* illustration). What authority Turnor had for his statement that “the Lombard House excites the

greatest attention from the fact of its having been at one period the residence of the learned Sir Henry Chauncy, who is supposed to have written some parts of his invaluable work within its walls," we do not know, but we have no reason to doubt the truth of it.* Early in May, 1681, his father died, and he came into possession of the Ardeley Bury estate.† The writer of the article in the "Dictionary of National Biography" terms it "the rich family estates," but this was by no means the case. A perusal of his father's will speedily corrects this idea. I shall refer to this erroneous statement later.

On June 14th, 1681, he was knighted by Charles I. at Windsor Castle. He doubtless received this mark of distinction by reason of his office as Recorder of Hertford. Honours now poured thick upon him. On October 28th of the same year he was nominated Reader of the Middle Temple, and on October 23rd, 1685, Treasurer of the same society. Three years later, June 26th,‡ 1688, the degree of Serjeant-at-Law was conferred upon him, and in November of the same year he was appointed one of His Majesty's Justices for the counties of Glamorgan, Brecknock, and Radnor. It is probable that about this period he first commenced seriously to consider his great project, which was, after various delays, to be given to the world in 1700. The inception and publication of this, however, will be dealt with in the next chapter.

* For a description of this mansion *see* Appendix A.

† For a description of this estate *see* Appendix B.
June 18th is given in Haydn's "Book of Dignities."

Less than three years elapsed before he became involved in a serious dispute with Sir Nicholas Butler, his eldest son's prospective father-in-law, and, as this involved a rupture with his son, we have the relation of the painful estrangement which took place, recorded in the fifth paragraph of the preface to the "Historical Antiquities." In the original draft of the preface (reference to which will be made in the chapter dealing with his History) he alludes to the "ungratefull and unnaturall usage of those trecherous and perfidious persons, who not only wasted the money at Law, partly design'd for the collection of Records and the performance of this undertaking, but also made my Soule restlesse; and me unfit for a work that requir'd the most calme, quiet and serene thoughts, free from all interruptions and disturbances." In the printed preface this is set out in more detail. After referring to the "unhappy circumstances" which "broke the first measures" proposed for the prosecution of his design, he says: "The most considerable of these I should have a strong temptation to forbear mentioning here, could I persuade myself 'twere yet a secret to many of those Gentlemen who are likeliest to read this: But 'tis in vain studiously to conceal what almost every Body knows; therefore I shall frankly confess, that when I found myself fatally disappointed in the once dear object of my most flattering Hopes; when I found him by mean disingenuous and clandestine methods, contriving and pursuing the Ruin (as far as in him lay) not of me alone, but of those other Persons, whose interests were embarg'd in the same Bottom with mine, and

were to me much dearer than my own ; Persons whom all the Tyes of Justice and Honour, of Gratitude and Equity, of Civility and Respect (if these might be reckon'd Tyes on one, who could even violate those of Nature), strictly bound with his utmost Care and Diligence, to have guarded from the Injuries of others : When I found all this, I was under a Necessity of applying no small sums, by me intended to defray the charge of collecting and transcribing whatever would be needful for this Work, to other uses, for the just Vindication of myself and Family, against the Sinister Attempts of this degenerate Branch and his malicious Accomplices."

"Nor was this the only Inconvenience that attended these Papers under such Afflictions of their Author : Misfortunes of this sort generally affect, not our Estates merely, but our very Souls ; so I'm sure this did, and wounded me in that most tender Part, whereby I was rendered less fit for accomplishing this Enterprise, which requires the sedatest Thoughts of a serene and well composed mind, such a Temper being best adapted to the Study of old Leiger-books, the ransacking mouldy Parchments, and examining over worn and blind Records."

The writer of the memoir of Sir Henry Chauncy in the "Dictionary of National Biography," makes a somewhat incomprehensible statement. He says : "The reference (to the degenerate member of his family) is apparently to his grandson Henry. His son and heir, Henry, having died in 1703, this grandson

succeeded in 1719 to the family estates, which he soon wasted and mortgaged; and died three years after without issue."

Now at the time the preface appeared Henry the grandson was but a child. I am assuming for this purpose the date to be 1700, whereas from internal evidence, as will be seen in the next chapter, the work was ready for the press some years before. The Ardeley Bury estate was held for three lives, and on the death of Henry Chauncy, grandson of Sir Henry, in 1722, reverted to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. The only landed estate held by the grandson was the Manor of Lights at Ardeley Wood End, and this he mortgaged to one John Hawkins, of Walthamstow, presumably for nearly its full value, as his will, bequeathing the Manor to Japheth Crook, was set aside by the Court.

In the Brown-Willis copy of the folio edition of the "Historical Antiquities" in the British Museum, is the following note, which gives us some clue, albeit a rather puzzling one, to the estrangement.

"A marriage settlement (Henry Chauncy to Jane Butler) was dated 23rd February, 1692, but the marriage did not take place until 23rd December, 1693, an unusually long interval, indicating some temporary derangement of plans. See case of *Butler v. Chauncy* (abr. of Cases in Chancery 89, cited in *Hamilton v. Mohun. Peere Williams Rep.* 121). The case of N. Butler and Sir Henry Chauncy, when, on the marriage of Sir Henry's son with Sir Nicholas' daughter, it was agreed, that the young couple should have so much for present maintenance, the son privately agreeing with his father to release part of it; so that was set aside, so thus the son was said to have [been?] given nothing but his own, and he might dispose of his present maintenance as he thought fit. The marriage settlement, after a long and expensive suit, was

confirmed by a decree of the Court of Chancery, with consent of all parties, February 15th, 1696."

After considerable research, the decree or judgment of the Court of Chancery referred to has been found at the Record Office, but the report of the trial is not forthcoming. The former is entitled: "A Lawsuit between Sir Nicholas Butler and Sir Henry Chauncey. Copied from a Book of Decrees and Orders in Chancery, 1696, p. 283." It is extremely difficult to see in what way the decree alone could have been the cause of the bitter quarrel between father and son. From Brown-Willis's note one might infer that Sir Henry made a settlement upon his son of certain property, in order to satisfy Sir Nicholas Butler's requirements as to his son-in-law's means, on the secret understanding that a portion of it should be reconveyed to Sir Henry *after* the marriage, or perhaps the sanction of Sir Nicholas Butler had been obtained. This implies double-dealing, or false pretences, and does not accord with Sir Henry's known character for uprightness, and the assumption may safely be regarded as untenable. A friend possessing expert legal knowledge, to whom a transcript of the decree has been referred (it is not of sufficient interest, besides being too lengthy, to print here), holds that it is merely a judicial sanction of the resettlement of the Chauncy estate. He says, stated briefly, it decides that Anne Chauncy (daughter) is to receive an income of £135 a year (*i.e.*, rent of Parkes Farm) and at her death Francis Bragge be paid £100 out of the year's rent, following the decease. Then,

Sir Henry, if alive, to receive the full rents, with remainder of a life interest to his widow Lady Elizabeth, plus a rent charge of £25 per annum out of the Ardeley estates. If Lady Elizabeth and Anne survive Sir Henry, Lady Elizabeth to take a rent charge of £100 per annum directly after his death out of the Ardeley estate, other than Parkes Farm. At the death of Anne Chauncy, Lady Elizabeth to have rent of Parkes Farm and rent charge of £25 a year.

This does not seem other than an equitable arrangement (albeit the death of Lady Chauncy before Sir Henry must have seriously affected its provisions), and we can find nothing therein affecting Sir Henry's son. The cause of the estrangement is still a mystery, but that it had its origin in this lengthy and expensive lawsuit and judgment there seems but little reason to doubt.

In 1704, John, his third son by Jane Flyer, died in the prime of life, and in 1706 he experienced still greater affliction in the loss of his third wife at the age of sixty. She was buried at Ardeley on the 25th August, 1706. Sir Henry was now seventy-four years of age and doubtless the blow was a severe one. Her wedded life had lasted twenty-seven years, having been far more prolonged than that of either of her predecessors, and, from the pathetic inscription placed upon her monument, and the desire expressed in his will that he might be buried in the same grave with her, we may conclude it had been happy. The mural tablet to Lady Chauncy has disappeared, but fortunately the

inscription thereon has been preserved in Le Neve's "Monumenta Anglicana." It reads—

To the
Pious Memory
of
The Excellent Lady
DAME ELIZABETH CHAUNCY
late Wife of
SIR HENRY CHAUNCY OF ARDLYBURY, KNT.
Serjeant-at-Law, and second
Daughter of NATHANIEL THURSTON of
Hoxne in the County of Suffolk Esq.
Whose Body lieth here, by her own direction
At Rest from Labours of Mortality
Till it shall be reunited
to her happy Soul
At the Resurrection of the Just:
And may her dear Remains
Be ne'er disturbed
And her virtuous Example of
Piety, Devotion and Charity
Imitated by those that survive her.
She died the 21st of August, 1706
In the 60th year of her age
And left behind her
Arthur and Elizabeth, who were all the children she had,
And with their Father do deeply mourn her loss.

There is no record of any inscription to his two former wives (the second of whom, as we have seen, was interred far away), and it is to be presumed that all the interments were in separate graves and not in a family vault as was customary.

The loss of his wife was followed only a few months later by that of his mother, who died the 5th of January, 1706-7, at the advanced age of ninety-eight years, six months, one week and three days. She had survived her husband for the long period of twenty-six years, and had lived to see her eldest son comparatively an old man. No inscription remains to record her memory, but it is difficult to believe that her son did not thus honour her. At this period, however, it was not customary to erect monuments to the weaker sex; those occasionally seen are usually part of the inscription to their husbands, *e.g.*, “also to . . . the wife of . . .” etc.

In February and March, 1711, occurred the most unpleasant episode in his life, which no biographer can do more than extenuate. It was the committal of a poor harmless woman, named Jane Wenham, upon the ridiculous charges of felony and witchcraft. This personage lived in a cottage in Church Lane in the neighbouring village of Walkern, distant less than a mile by the fields from Ardeley. Unfortunately most of the information respecting the case is only obtainable from a pamphlet written by the Rev. Francis Bragge, son of the Vicar of Hitchin, an implacable persecutor of the poor creature. The facts of the case must be stated briefly, but a fuller account of the so-called “bewitchments” said to have been practised by Jane Wenham, her trial and after, together with the war of pamphlets it gave rise to, will be found in a pamphlet entitled “A Hertfordshire Witch, or the story of Jane Wenham, the ‘Wise Woman’ of Walkern, 1906,” which may

A
Full and Impartial
A C C O U N T
O F T H E
D I S C O V E R Y
O F

S O R C E R Y a n d W I T C H C R A F T ,
P r a c t i s ' d b y

J A N E W E N H A M of *Walkerne* in *Hertfordshire*, upon the Bodies of *Anne Thorn*,
Anne Street, &c. The Proceedings
against Her from Her being first Appre-
hended, till She was Committed to
Gaol by Sir *HENRY CHAUNCY*.

A L S O H E R
T R Y A L
A T T H E

Affizes at *Hertford* before Mr. Justice *P O W E L L*,
where she was found Guilty of *Felony* and
Witchcraft, and receiv'd Sentence of Death
for the same, *March 4. 1711-12.*

Thou shalt not suffer a Witch to live.
Exod. c. 22. v. 18.

The Third Edition.

L O N D O N : Printed for *E. C u r l*, at the *Dial* and
Bible against *St Dunstan's Church* in *Fleetstreet*. 1712.
Price 6 d.

*Facsimile of Title Page of the Rev. Francis Bragge's
first pamphlet.*

be obtained for one shilling from the East Herts Archæological Society, Bishop's Stortford.

It appears that Jane Wenham was accused by one Chapman, a farmer, of having bewitched one of his men, causing him to perform some witless act, as well as having previously cast her "evil eye" upon Chapman's and his neighbours' cattle, causing some to die and others to execute curious and unaccountable antics. His violent abuse of the poor creature caused her to appeal to Sir Henry for protection, who counselled reference to a person in the parish who would act as arbitrator, and the subsequent result of her failure to obtain justice at the hands of the mediator, the Rev. Godfrey Gardiner, Rector of Walkern, was followed by statements, told with much circumstantial detail, of the effect of her enchantment upon various people, notably upon a maid-servant of the Rector's, one Anne Thorn. This poor, half-demented creature (whose complaint appears to have been a species of hysterical hypochondria, perhaps accompanied by epileptic attacks) performed many, if true, remarkable achievements, such as running at a speed of eight miles an hour with an injured knee, leaping five-barred gates with ease, making up mysterious bundles of rubbish, producing crooked pins and "cakes of feathers"; being in the meantime tormented by imps in the shape of cats and all the while undergoing numerous distressing paroxysms called fits.

There can be little doubt but that throughout the whole proceedings against the so-called witch, Sir Henry felt ill at ease; nevertheless he allowed

superstitious belief to triumph over his customary good sense. This weakness, manifested in many places throughout the "Historical Antiquities," was exhibited in this instance with what might have proved lamentable results, but, happily, his judgment was overruled by a more enlightened judge.

But to return to the story. The influence of his grandson Bragge, and the daily reports of his credulous son Arthur, upon the condition of the servant maid, caused Sir Henry to issue a warrant for the arrest of Jane Wenham upon suspicion of practising sorcery and witchcraft, and to go down to Walkern on Valentine's Day, 1711-2, where at the house of a Mr. Trigg he examined her, together with the witnesses. The chief deponents, apart from Anne Thorn, were the Rector of Walkern before-mentioned (a simple, easy-going man, much worried by things he could not understand, and evidently greatly in fear of his brother clergy), his wife, the Rev. Francis Bragge, and Arthur Chauncy, all of whom attested upon oath what they had seen. This evidently occupied some considerable time, and the inquiry was adjourned until the following day, when the prisoner and witnesses were ordered to appear before him at Ardeley Bury. On this occasion additional evidence, or rather beliefs and opinions, which it is not a little surprising Sir Henry should have admitted, was tendered by Susan Aylott, who averred that the death of Richard Harvey's wife and Jeremy Harvey's child were due to the machinations of Jane. She was followed by Thomas Adams (he, by the way, was afterwards murdered

by a highwayman on his way home from Hertford market), who deposed to the loss of certain sheep, and the strange antics of others, all attributable to the witch.

Another dupe of the foolish clamour appeared upon the scene in the shape of the Rev. Robert Strutt, the Vicar of Ardeley, and he succeeded, doubtless to his great self-satisfaction, in terrifying the poor creature into confessing the most absurd things, which confession was duly laid before Sir Henry. But upon being urged to repeat her admission before the trio of divines and Arthur Chauncy, she refused, and plainly stated they "lay in wait for her life," a statement which does not appear to have shamed these credulous clergymen in the least.

A Mittimus was now put into execution, and Jane Wenham was sent under escort to Hertford gaol, and, as far as Sir Henry was concerned, the chapter was practically closed. He does not seem to have been in attendance at the trial, although presumably the sworn depositions were put in. The judge, Mr. Justice Powell, almost openly derided the so-called evidence; nevertheless the jury found her guilty, and she was sentenced to death. But a free pardon was speedily granted, and the poor woman lived for a period of twenty years afterwards in the vicinity of Hertford, esteemed by all with whom she was brought into contact.

Not content with exhibiting the most rancorous malevolence both before and after the trial, the Rev. Francis Bragge rushed into print with "A Full and Impartial Account of the Discovery of Sorcery and Witchcraft, Practis'd by Jane Wenham," etc., etc. (*see* illustration), which not only served to bring himself

into notoriety but dragged Sir Henry into the fray. This brochure ran into five editions, and was followed by "Witchcraft Farther Display'd," and later by another called "A Defense of the Proceedings," etc. Other pamphlets appeared refuting and exposing the persecution; in all no less than eight of these ephemeral publications are recorded, for and against the belief in witchcraft generally, and in this particular instance of the practice thereof.

It is highly probable that Sir Henry must have felt heartily weary of the whole disputation, which seems to have brought him into unpleasant notoriety with the country side. It inevitably assisted to embitter his last years, for to a man of his high legal attainments the reversal of his judgment must have proved a severe blow. Yet one firmly believes he endeavoured to determine the case impartially, but his superstitious nature warped his mental discernment, and the clamour of the ignorant peasantry, combined with the denunciations of the clergy for whom he had particular reverence, obscured his perceptions of the truth, and led him into performing the most ill-advised action of his life.

Of his last seven years we know practically nothing. In 1715 his first-born daughter Anne died unmarried, and only two daughters remained alive out of his first wife's family. In the chapter devoted to his work I have printed two letters to Robert Dale, dated March 20th, 1711, and April 22nd, 1712, and one to Peter Le Neve, dated November 25th, 1714. It is probable that he was, for at any rate part of this time, in failing health, for he refers to a humour

affecting his mouth and head, so much indeed that he could hardly eat or drink. It is reasonable to suppose that he had at this period (indeed probably at the time of his wife Elizabeth's death when, as we have seen, he was in his seventy-fifth year), retired from the active pursuit of his profession, and these letters lend themselves to the belief that he was then leading the life of a country gentleman, for from February to April (the period of the witchcraft affair and the letters to Dale) he would, if still engaged in legal pursuits, have been in London, or at any rate away from Ardeley. We see that he was still employed attending to his magisterial duties, Quarter Sessions, etc.,* and took an active interest in the affairs of the parish. Indeed, the late Vicar of Ardeley, the Rev. William Malet, stated that the registers of this period contained many interesting references to Sir Henry, which exhibit very forcibly the concern he felt for all matters relating to the place and people. The only two references, however, which my friend the Rev. W. d'A. Crofton has been able to discover, are a description of the charitable gifts left by his father, and the following reference to placing a village lad out as apprentice:—

29. July 1720. I do hereby desire & authorise Mr. Tho. Tipping to Lay Down five pounds of ye money called Head's money to put out John son of Tho Wright of Luffenhall an apprentice & I will when called upon by Mr Tipping confirm as ye Will directs such Indentures as he shall make or get made for ye said Boy.

HENRY CHAUNCY.

* Since this was written the "Hertfordshire County Records," 2 vols., have been published, and from these Mr. E. E. Squires has extracted certain Orders, Reports, Certificates, Warrants and Letters, either signed or written by Sir Henry Chauncy, which I have printed in Appendix C.

Looking back upon his life we notice that, though it cannot reasonably be said to have been unsuccessful, yet certainly it was not devoid of many trials and anxieties, and could have been no bed of roses. He had to make his way in his profession and to bring up and educate a fairly large family of eight children: he had had to bear the loss of his three wives and four children, only two of the latter remaining at home, and the once large and busy household must have seemed strangely quiet in his old age. But notwithstanding losses and troubles his temper was not soured, and the letters to Robert Dale, the friend of his early days, are full of cordiality and grateful remembrance of past kindness and interest in the affairs of his office and family, at the same time pressing him to pay a visit to Ardeley Bury.

Sir Henry's long life came to an end in 1719, at the ripe age of eighty-seven. He was buried on the first of May in the chancel of Ardeley church, and interred, by his own express wish, in the same grave as his last wife. No tablet or monument to his memory now exists, although one account says that "a plain monument" was erected, but it is possible that an inscription to his memory was added to the tablet erected to Lady Chauncy. Whichever happened, they have both disappeared, and, in connection with this, a curious tradition survives to the effect that the Chauncy memorials were destroyed by Commissary-General Murray, who held Ardeley Bury from 1811 to 1834. There is, however, absolutely no proof of this, and on the face of it such an act of vandalism is highly improbable. On December 5th, 1826, the

Rev. John Skinner, rector of Camerton, Somerset, visited Ardeley and says, "There is a long inscription to the memory of Mr. Chauncy, who wrote the 'History of Hertfordshire,' in the chancel." It is remarkable that all the Chauncy monuments should have been removed from the chancel, some of them being placed on the floor of the tower, while the elaborately carved marble memorial, with shields and scrolls, to the memory of Henry Chauncy and his wife (1703) is now affixed upon the exterior north wall of the chancel.

Sir Henry's will is quite brief, in striking contrast with that of his father, occupying half one side of a sheet of brief paper. It is not in his own handwriting and the signature is rather shaky. It reads as follows:—

In the name of God Amen. I Sir Henry Chauncy Knt Serjeant at Law do hereby make and ordain this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all former Wills by me at any time made. And in the first place I bequeath my Soul to God hoping to be saved through the sole merits of my Blessed Saviour Jesus Christ. And my body I commit to be devoutly buried at the discretion of my Executrix hereinafter named in the same tomb wherein my last wife lies buried and as for the temporal estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me I give and bequeath the same in manner following— And first I strictly charge and require that my said Executrix shall pay and discharge all my just debts, and after payments thereof I will and bequeath unto my son Arthur the sum of twenty pounds with all the furniture as it now stands in his bedchamber at Ardleybury for the better furnishing and enabling him to follow his Profession where he shall think most convenient. Item I give unto my grandson Butler Chauncy the sum of ten pounds and to my grandson Angel Chauncy all my books of what kind soever as they now stand in my Great Study Closets or other parts of my house at Ardley aforesaid. Item I give unto my granddaughter Penelope

Forrester five pounds to Mrs. Meadows my clock which now stands in my little parlor. To Mr. Strutt Vicar of Ardley three pounds. To the poor of the said parish five pounds. To the widow Bradle my servant two guineas all which Legacies and bequests to be paid by my said Executrix a year after my decease and I do constitute and appoint my beloved daughter Elizabeth Chauncy Sole Executrix of this my last Will hereby bequeathing to her all the rest and residue of my personal Estate not herein otherwise disposed of. And hereby confirming the Assignment I made to her of two Exchequer Orders by note under my hand and seal dated the 10th day of September Anno Dni Seventeen Hundred and Sixteen. And also confirming to her the several goods and chattels granted bargained and sold to her by deed under my hand and seal bearing date the 30th day of November in the said year of our Lord Seventeen Hundred and Sixteen.

In Witness whereof I have published and declare this to be my last Will and Testament the 29th. day of April Anno Dni 1717.

H. CHAUNCY.

Sealed, Signed, and publish'd in the presence of us Chas. Ingleby, R. Graham, Robt. Strutt.

(Proved 21st May, 1719.)

There is little in the will that calls for notice. The gift of his considerable library to his grandson, the Rector of Cottered, is interesting; he seems to have been a bookish man, although we know little or nothing of him after this. Penelope Forrester was his granddaughter, the child of his daughter Martha. The widow Bradle was presumably his housekeeper; there were doubtless other servants, but they are not remembered in the will. The Exchequer Bills were a recent invention, having been introduced by Montague, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in 1691.

We see from this will that, although Sir Henry passed most of his life in the profession of the law

and held several posts of importance, besides being for many years in possession of the Ardeley Bury estate, there is no evidence that he amassed a fortune. His testament, of course, only deals with such property as he had accumulated, the estate descending to his grandson, but it clearly shows that he died comparatively poor.

His unmarried daughter, Elizabeth, was not only sole executrix but principal legatee, and, from the phrasing of the will, Sir Henry had evidently made her some substantial gifts during his lifetime. The property disposed of later under Elizabeth's will did not, apparently, exceed £1,300 or £1,400; and unless she parted with any of her estate during her lifetime, that sum would represent very much what was left her by her father. It is not, perhaps, difficult to account for his apparent poverty. The income then earned by a barrister in large practice was insignificant compared with what is possible now. His household expenses had been heavy, and we know he had spent very considerable sums upon the "Historical Antiquities," and on the law-suit with Sir Nicholas Butler.

Judging from his father's Book of Accounts, the income of the Ardeley property, although, as we have seen, sufficient to support him in the position of a country gentleman, was not large, and, in addition to his other charges, there would be an allowance to make to his mother, who, it has been remarked, lived to a great age, only dying in her ninety-ninth year.

As regards his religious views, he has himself told us they were in conformity with those of the Church

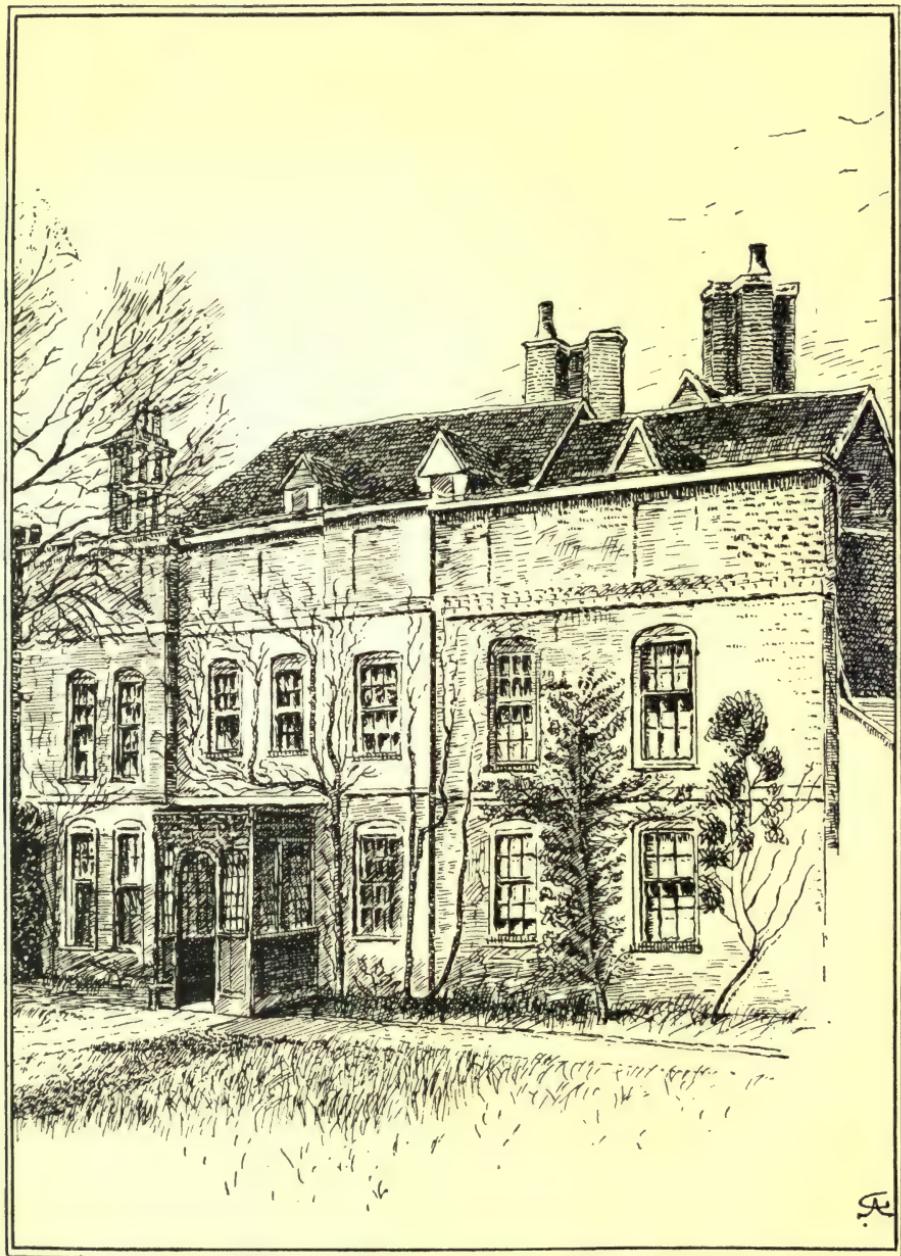
of England, of which he professes himself "an unworthy member"; but on his political sentiments he is silent, although it is fairly clear from the preface to the "Historical Antiquities," and, indeed, from his history generally, that they were on the side of Royalty. He was apparently content with the settlement under William and Mary, as James the Second's Romanist proclivities had probably alienated him from the Jacobite cause. We find him ever in favour of preserving old customs and institutions;* he was, in short, beyond doubt, what was a little later termed a Tory.

With his personal appearance, in his official robes, we are familiar from two engravings, the first by J. Savage without date, forming the frontispiece to the "Historical Antiquities." In this he is shown sitting on a chair in his robes, and presents the appearance of a man of tall stature and majestic aspect; the expression of the face, which is turned toward the right of the print, suggests both benevolence and firmness. The other was published by W. Richardson, and bears date 1802 (*see* illustration), while another is dated 1812 (*see* illustration), but no painter's or engraver's name is given, and there may be earlier impressions. In the latter he is attired in the same robes as in the former, and the expression of the face, which is turned towards the left of the print, is much the same. There is a striking resemblance between the two engravings,

* He was for several years Steward of the Manor of Baldock, and seems to have been the last upholder of the old customs which belonged to it. His signature often appears upon the Court Rolls.

and the portraits must have been taken about the same time. Cole, in his MS. collections for "An Athenæ Cantab.," says that there was "an original picture of him by Vandebank (who was his relative) at Pulter Forester's." It is possible that both these engravings may have been made from this painting, of whose existence nothing is now known.

Of the relics of Sir Henry now in existence, the most interesting is the silver pocket sundial and compass in a case, inscribed "Sir Henry Chauncy's, 1700," probably a present from some one who appreciated his work. It is now in the possession of his descendant, Major W. A. Chauncy, who also possesses a portrait in oils of Sir Henry's mother, dated 1696, when she was 88 years of age, and his youngest daughter Elizabeth; likewise portraits of John Thurston, Jane Cason, Thomas Cason, and Richard Wythe. Probably other seventeenth and eighteenth century portraits of members of the family are in existence, but so far it has not been practicable to trace them.



LOMBARD HOUSE, HERTFORD.

Sometime the Residence of SIR HENRY CHAUNCY.

Sketched by Mr. G. Aylott from a photograph by Mr. E. E. Squires.

APPENDIX A.

LOMBARD HOUSE, Hertford, is thus described by Mr. W. Frampton Andrews: "This picturesque building is situated at the bottom of a wide open space known as Bull Plain, and is an old brick and lath-and-plaster built house, occupied at the present time by a political club. It is probably one of the oldest buildings in Hertford; the back abuts upon the River Lea, while in front is a large garden having an ancient high brick wall at the side, with old-fashioned iron entrance gate and ornamental piers surmounted by stone urns. The steep tiled roofs and gables give the place an interesting appearance, and it contains a large number of rooms, with modern staircase, ancient beams, and panelled walls. There is a large hall, with old-fashioned fireplace at one end, having an ornamenteally carved chimneypiece. The front is of red brick, while the back of the house is of brick and lath-and-plaster, and there are several chimneys set anglewise. In some of the Hertford Corporation records the house is called 'Malloryes,' and this name appears in various early deeds. This was probably derived from the fact that in the reign of King Henry VI. a person named Robert Mallory was the occupier. At one time it was known as the Lumber House, a name that has been changed to that of Lombard House, by which it is now known. There does not appear to be any connection between the house and the Lombards of former times, and it is not known whether any of the bankers or money-lenders of Lombard Street, or any pawnbrokers ever resided in it and gave the name to the place.

"In the 'Historical Antiquities of Herts' is a view of the town of Hertford, in which the house is shown as a two-storey building with four gables, standing alongside the river, presenting an appearance very similar to what is now seen.* The river at that time was only a narrow stream, and was not made navigable until many years afterwards. Over the fireplace in the hall of the Lombard House are carved the arms of the Tooke family, three griffins'

* A view of the house from the rear is given in "Picturesque Hertfordshire," by Duncan Moule, 1904, p. 127.

heads erased; crest; a griffin's head erased per chevron, holding in its mouth, by the middle of the blade, a sword erect. These arms seem to denote that the house was built by a member of this family who also resided there. There may have been an older building upon the site which was removed to make way for the present house, or it may have been added to. William Tooke was bailiff of the borough in 1577, and appears to have been a burgess or councillor until 1588, when his name is mentioned as one of the chief burgesses, probably an alderman, until 1604. In Essendon Church is a brass to the memory of William Tooke, who died 1588, and his wife Ales. He was Lord of the Manor of Essendon and lived at Popes', which was a large mansion at Essendon West End, the foundations of which only now remain. The shields bear the same arms as those in Lombard House.

"In the 'Historical Antiquities' is mentioned a tombstone in Essendon Church to the memory of William Tooke, *some time of Hertford*, who died 1611, and Mary his wife, daughter of Nicholas Tychbourne, of Roydon. He appears to have been the second son of the last-mentioned William Tooke, and lived at Hertford several years, probably at the Lombard House, as in the baptismal registers of All Saints' Church are the names of nearly all his children. He may have been either the restorer or builder of the old house. Mary Tooke, described as a 'widdowe,' was a freeholder in the borough of Hertford in the year 1621. In Essendon Church also are monuments to the memory of Christopher Took, Gent., fourth son of William Took, *late of Hertford*, who died a bachelor in 1630, and Ralph Took, who died 1635.

"In the registers of Essendon Church is an entry dated 1655, 'Auditor Took and his wife buried both in a grave 20 Nov.,' and a monument to his memory states: '*James Tooke of Hertford*, late one of the Auditors of the Courts of Wards and Liveries,' died 1655, and his wife Dorothy, and had issue twenty children. According to Salmon's 'History of Hertfordshire,' 'Thomas Took Esqr., gave £50 to bring water in a conduit to the Market Place or to the poor of Hertford, and his executors paid £30 of it to the poor.' Turnor, in his 'History of Hertford,' says that Thomas Took's will was dated 1670, and the spring from which the water was to be brought was situate in Balls Park, the property of Sir John Harrison. An inquiry was held, but as only £30 could be obtained from the testator's estate, this sum was handed to the Trustees of the Poor

for distribution. This benevolent individual evidently appreciated the advantages of a supply of pure water.

“In Wormley Church a large brass was fixed to the memory of Walter Took, of Popes’, and his wife Angelet, who died 1598, bearing the above-mentioned arms, and several other members of the family are buried in this church. In ‘Hertford in the Olden Times,’ compiled by Mr. R. T. Andrews, the following names of occupiers of the Lombard House are recorded:—

1639, Mr. Barker.
1655, Mr. Gabriel Barker, Doctor of Physic.
1695, Ditto Ditto
1719, Mr. William Heath.

“In the ‘Visitation of Hertfordshire, 1634,’ it is stated that William Barker of London had a son, Gabriel, living in Hertford in 1634, who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Gray, of the Isle of Ely, and had a son Gabriel (the eldest), and other children. Gabriel Barker was a chief burgess of the borough of Hertford in 1627, Mayor in 1635, and a Justice of the Peace in 1644. One of the most interesting facts respecting this old house is that at a certain period it was the residence of Sir Henry Chauncy, the Historian of Hertfordshire, and he is supposed to have written a portion of his valuable work within its walls.

“The house was most probably in the occupancy of his brother John, who in 1663 was Town Clerk of Hertford, and in 1695 (he died in 1704) was a Justice of the Peace and Alderman. It is reasonable to assume that he desired his brother Henry to make the house his home when carrying out his professional duties in Hertford, but we have no record at present available of the period during which John held the house, or his brother stayed therein.

“John Chauncy by deed gave 25s., secured on property in Essex, to be paid annually to the Vicar of All Saints’, Hertford, for preaching a sermon on the day of an execution in the presence of the condemned prisoner.

“In the early part of the nineteenth century the judges were occasionally lodged in the Lombard House during the holding of assizes in the town. Since that time the house has been occupied as a school and as a private residence.”



ARDELEY BURY

The Ancestral Home

Drawn by Mr. G. Aylott, from



EAR STEVENAGE,
IR HENRY CHAUNCY.

raphs by Mr. A. H. Bradbeer.

APPENDIX B.

ARDELEY BURY.

THIS was from Saxon times the residence of the Lords of the Manor of Ardeley, who were, in Chauncy's day, the representatives of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, to whom it had been given by *Æthelstan* the Saxon King. It is described in the "Historical Antiquities" as the chief manor, the lesser manors of Moor Hall, Cromer Hall and Lights all being subordinate thereto, holding therefrom by fealty and certain rents.

There was a custom in this manor that if any copyholder died without male heirs, but leaving either daughters or sisters, the eldest of these succeeded to the copyholds. This custom doubtless prevailed elsewhere, but Chauncy notes it apparently as rather an unusual procedure.

The house is described in the "Historical Antiquities" thus : "The Mannor House is situated upon the side of a Hill, distant from the Church above 140 Pole, in the middle of an antient Park, now disparked, well water'd with Fishponds, and heretofore moated round, with a Mount within the Moat, and a Garden-place within the Mount, which seems to be a mark of a Fortification in the time of the Danish or the Barons' Wars ; and the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul have from time to time let the Mannor House, with the Scite and Demesnes of their Mannor, to the Ancestors of Sir Henry Chauncy, who have held the same by several Leases for Lives, above the space of two hundred years last past."

This latter statement is hardly accurate, as the estate only came to George Chauncy by marriage in 1572. From him it descended to Henry his son in 1625, thence to his son in 1631, and to Sir Henry in 1681. His eldest son Henry having died, the estate came to his grandson Henry Chauncy, who held the estate for two years only and died without issue on 23rd Dec., 1722, when Ardeley Bury reverted to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. On the 21st June, 1808, the Dean and Chapter conveyed the Manor House of Ardeley Bury, with certain lands belonging to it

(these being detached from the Manor), to John Spurrier, auctioneer, who sold them on the 19th Jan., 1810, to Sir David Baird, K.B., who conveyed them on the 10th Dec., 1811, to John Murray, Commissary-General to His Majesty's Forces. He it was who, in the year 1820, pulled down the greater portion of the old brick house and erected the present imitation of a medieval mansion. At the death of John Murray, in 1834, the estate came to his daughter Susannah Catherine Saunders Murray, wife of Major Adolphus Cotton (who afterwards assumed the name of Murray), by whom she had issue three children; on the death of Adolphus Murray, she was married to Robert, second son of the Rev. Sir William Murray, of Clermont, co. Fife, ninth Baronet. By Robert Murray (who succeeded to the baronetcy in 1843, on the death of James, his eldest brother) she had two children. She died on the 21st April, 1860, and was succeeded by Adolphus William, her son by the first husband, who died on the 20th April, 1864, at Aberystwith, at the age of twenty-seven. By his will he left the estate to Philip Longmore, of the Castle at Hertford, solicitor, and that gentleman's trustees disposed of it to the late Major Scott, whose trustees are the present owners thereof.

The mansion is nearly half a mile to the west of the church, to the left of the road leading to Walkern. It is approached by a fine avenue of horse-chestnut trees. Viewed from the termination of this avenue the Bury presents a most pleasing, and, at the same time, imposing appearance. It is, however, difficult to state definitely which portions of the house are sixteenth century (1580), and which nineteenth (1820), as it would seem that General Murray, at the partial rebuilding in 1820, must have used all the old material, and incurred very great expense in an endeavour to harmonise the new and the old portions. Although the result is what might be termed a pseudo-medieval mansion, it is by no means unsuccessful, as the ivy which covers nearly all the front has toned down any incongruities; and as will be seen by the sketch it is capable of artistic reproduction.

The front of the house is built of brick and has several Gothic windows with stone frames and mullions. The roof is covered with plain tiles, and there are several ornamental brick chimneys, all of different patterns. The entrance doorway is in the Tudor style, having a shield with the arms of Chauncy in the right spandril (a lion above a cross fleury), and another shield in the left spandril with three stars

(the arms of Murray). There are gables with finial crosses, pinnacles, a niche for figure, with a clock above, and the windows are of various sizes and shapes. The front overlooking the lawn is of brick, with ivy covered castellated towers at the angles, Gothic windows, and stone frames.

The offices are built partly of flint, with some bricks and old stones. Originally there was a deep moat all round the mansion, but at the back and sides this is now dry and has been planted with shrubs and trees. In front (south-east) the moat has been converted into a large lake, which is stated to be well stocked with fish, and upon an island in the middle is a boat house of stone and flint of modern construction.

The following are the portions of the present mansion which are reputed to have been constructed about 1580:—

The entrance hall, inner hall, and corridor. The former have Tudor doorways and windows, and possess groined roofs, bearing Tudor roses, fleur-de-lis and other ornamental designs.

The banqueting-hall, a noble apartment some forty-five by twenty feet in size, with lofty mullioned bay windows. The walls are covered with fine oak panelling and at the end is a musicians' gallery. The fireplace has a massive stone mantelpiece, containing eight shields, besides sculptured figures; the top is crested, and above it are three oak panels. The bachelors' room, containing a wooden Tudor fireplace, has a door communicating with the music gallery before mentioned.

The library. This was formerly the drawing room and is about thirty-five by fifteen feet, having alcoves at either end and an original stone fireplace. The windows are of different periods, some Tudor and others Gothic. The room above is of similar character, but contains no distinguishing features.

The gun or breakfast room, formerly the dining room, about sixteen feet square. It is panelled with old oak, painted, with a cornice, and has a Tudor stone fireplace with a large ornamental chimneypiece. Another oak panelled room is situated over this with a powder room off it. From a recess in a cupboard in this apartment it is supposed a staircase communicates with an underground passage, which passes under the park in the direction of Ardeley Church.

Rooms in turret, one on ground floor and another above. The former has a groined roof of either stone or plaster with stone

columns some twelve feet high. Each room contains a small fireplace and chimneypiece with chevron mouldings and columns.

There are probably rooms in the turret nearest to the entrance, but there is no access to them from the inside, and the doorway on the exterior has long been blocked. It is a matter for speculation why this was done ; presumably the rooms were not needed, and as it would have spoilt the façade to have taken down the tower, the entrances were simply blocked up and left.

Old bathroom about eight feet square with a groined roof.

Kitchen (a large and lofty apartment), servants' hall, butler's pantry, housekeeper's room, larder and other offices. These have Gothic windows, and generally are so much modernised as to be indistinguishable from the later buildings.

APPENDIX C.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY RECORDS.

Notes and Extracts from the Sessions Rolls, 1581 to 1698.

VOL. I., 1905.

ORDER signed by Henry Chauncy the younger, Esq., that P. 146
Anthony Gray should keep and maintain one Jeffrey Salmon, his (1662),
servant, who has become sick and subject to "strange fits of
lunacy" until the "full end and expiration of the terms of his
said service."

Certificate by H. Chauncy and Tho. Stanley, two justices of P. 248
the peace, that they have viewed a certain foot-bridge at Cromer, (1674),
in the parish of Yardley, for which the inhabitants stand indicted,
and found it to be in good repair.

15th May, Yardley. Letter from Mr. H. Chauncy to his P. 273
brother Mr. John Chauncy:— (1676),
No. 804.

"Brother, I desire you to enter these presentments at your
sessions in my name. I present the inhabitants of Clothall and
Rushden for that on the 16th day of March last past, they
neglected to repaire a certaine highway, leading from Berden Valley to
Cumberlow, conteyning 100 pole in length, lying in their parish on
both sides, so that it lay so unleavell that noe coach could passe.

"H. CHAUNCY."

"I present the inhabitants of Wallington and Sandon, for
that on the 16th day of March last past, they neglected to repaire
a certaine highway leading from Red Hill to Royston, conteyning
100 poles, lying in both their parishes so that it lay soe unleavell
that noe coach could passe.

"H. CHAUNCY."

"And issue out processe hereupon retornable at the sessions
in July next, and put these presentments into forme."

(Numbers 791, 794, 796 refer to above, but no mention is made therein of
Chauncy.)

P. 283
(1677),
No. 159.

25th May. Report of H. Channey (Chauncy?) after view by him that George Field, of Hertingfordbury, has stopped up a highway leading from Roxford to the parish church of Hertingfordbury, by making a ditch across the said way in South Field, adjoining to a wood called Loosey Bushes, in the said parish.

P. 286
(1678),
No. 212.

15th Jan. Warrant granted by H. Chauncy for the distress for the sum of twenty pound on the goods and chattels of Thomas Hatton, for that he "did unlawfully course and hunt a certaine deere of the Right Honble. James Earle of Salisbury, in the grounds of the said Earle, against the consent of the said Earle, and was likewise aiding and assisting other persons herein," and "hath forfeited for the said offence the summe of twenty pounds according to the statute in such case provided."

P. 299
(1679),
No. 299.

11th July. Letter from H. Chancy to Mr. John Chancy concerning Mr. Edward Wilford, of Cheshunt, who is bound over to appear at the sessions "for striking his maide servant two blowes with a small switch over the backe for some misdemeanor against him, and if there be no more in it I conceive 'tis justifiable for a master to correct his servant with a small switch, for that is a lawfull weapon in law, and of this opinion is Mr. Dalton and severall other lawyers."

Pp. 305-6
(1680),
No. 208.

10 July. Holborn. Letter from Sir Henry Chauncy to his brother, Mr. John Chauncy, at Hertford. "To be left at the post-house in Ware . . . post paid 2d." —

"I designed to have been at your sessions on Monday next, but am prevented by reason I was this day disappointed of my passage by the coach so that you must read the charge. Mr. Sayer was with me to intreat you to take care of an indictment brought against a porcher (*sic*) for destroying the game in his parish of Barkhamsted, and he is much concerned in it therefore I desire you to take care the same be not discharged upon a submission with a small penalty but may be compelled to traverse and to pay such penalty as the statute inflicts. I did write to Mr. Seward concerning the sale of Meager's house, but he wrote an answer that he had soold it to Smart, and he believed that Smart would sell the same againe, but being not positive the treasurer of the hospitall put off his journey which he designed on Monday last, therefore I entreat you to enquire

of Smart whether he will sell, and at what price, and let me know the same on Monday next, for according to your letter the governor will come this next week to see it, and will buy the same if he can agree with him, therefor it will be a kindness to speed your answer to me at the Black Horse, an apothecary's shop against Graye's Inn Gate in Holborne. My wife and I prevent (*sic*) our service to you and sister."

(See also No. 209.) This is not, however, printed. It refers to the number of the document in the volume for years 1680-1682.—E.E.S.

Certificate by Sir Henry Chauncy that the King's highway called Old Field in Weston, for which the inhabitants of Weston were indicted, is in good repair. P. 347
(1680),
No. 606.

Certificate by Sir Henry Chauncy that the highway leading from Baldock to Gravely is in good repair. No. 607.

Letter dated "Ardeley," 3rd October, from Mr. H. Chauncy to his brother Mr. John Chauncy, at St. Albans, referring to a certain Daniel Young, indicted for stopping up a common way leading from Luffenhall to Brookefield. P. 360
(1685),
No. 226.

The report of Sir Henry Chauncy and George Throckmorton, esq., concerning the difference between the inhabitants of the town of Hitchin and the inhabitants of Kings Walden. P. 376
(1688),
No. 140.

"William Godfrey, an inhabitant of the parish of Hitchin, hired a house of Thomas Crowley, situate in the parish of Kings Walden, under the yearly rent of £2 5s., for the term of one year, to commence from Lady Day, 1685, by virtue whereof Godfrey with his apprentice, did enter into the said house on the 25th March, 1685, and laid goods there, but did sometime abide there, and some time at Hitchin, until the 24th June following. Then Godfrey brought his wife and children who settled themselves in the said house, and by reason of their residence there the overseers of the poor for Kings Walden did charge him for the said house 6d. to their poor rate for the first year, and he paid the same, and continuing there they charged him 2d. for the second year, and he paid that likewise, and the surveyors of the highways required the wife of Godfrey to gather stones for the repair of the highways in Kings Walden, by reason of her residence there, and she performed that duty in the year 1687, and Godfrey and his family continued in the said house until the time of his death, which was about five weeks before Michaelmas,

1687, but his wife and family continuing in the said house after the death of Godfrey, the overseers of the poor for the said parish of Kingswalden complained to the justices, at the next quarter sessions, that Godfrey's wife and children endeavoured to settle themselves at Kingswalden in a cottage under the yearly value of ten pounds, and were likely to become chargeable to the parish."

THE
Historical Antiquities
O F
HERTFORDSHIRE:
W I T H

The Original of Counties, Hundreds or Wapentakes, Boroughs, Corporations, Towns, Parishes, Villages, and Hamlets;

The Foundation and Origin of Monasteries, Churches, Advowsons, Tythes, Rectories, Impropriations and Vicarages, in General;

D E S C R I B I N G

Those of this C O U N T Y in Particular: As also the Several Honors, Mannors, Castles, Seats, and Parks of the N O B I L I T Y and G E N T R Y; And the Succession of the L o r d s of each M a n n o r therein.

A L S O

The C H A R A C T E R S of the A B B O T S of St. A L B A N S.

Faithfully Collected from Public Records, Leiger Books, Ancient Manuscripts, Charters, Evidences, and other Select Authorities.

Together with an E X A C T T R A N S C R I P T of D O M E S D A Y B O O K, so far as concerns this S H I R E, and the T R A N S L A T I O N thereof in English.

To which are added

The E p i l a p h s and M e m o r a b l e I n s c r i p t i o n s, in all the P a r i s h e s.

And likewise the Blazon of the Coats of Arms of the several Noblemen, and Gentlemen, Proprietors in the Same.

Illustrated with a large Map of the County; a Prospect of Hertford; the Ichnography of St. Albans and Hitchin; And many Sculptures of the principal Edifices and Monuments.

By Sir H E N R Y C H A U N C Y, Kt. Serjeant at L a w.

Nos Patriæ Fines & dulcia Scripsimus Arva — Virgil.

L O N D O N :

Printed for Ben. G r i f f i n in the Great Old-Bailey, Sam. K e b l e at the Turks-head in Fleet-street, Dan. B i o w o n e at the Black Swan and Bible without Temple-Bar, Dan. B i d w i n t e r and Tho. Leigh at the Rose and Crown in St. Pauls Church-yard. M D C C.

PART III.

HISTORY.

AT what period Sir Henry Chauncy commenced to collect the materials for his great work it is difficult to say. He himself calls it a “laborious work which for divers years hath employ'd the Vacancies I had from the business of my particular profession,” and he told his friend Brown-Willis that it had cost him more than fourteen years’ study. The collection of such a mass of material, by one who could only devote a limited portion of his time to it, must have been a very lengthened operation; and the fourteen years he speaks of should probably be reckoned from the time he began, not to collect, but to arrange his material, and commence the regular composition of his work. From Bishop Gibson’s edition of Camden’s “*Britannia*,” 1695, it would seem that the manuscript was complete and ready for the press before the publication of that work, for it contains a catalogue of books on the Antiquities of England beneath the different counties, and under Hertfordshire is the note: “The Antiquities of this County are now prepared for the press by Sir Henry Chauncy, Knt., Serjeant-at-Law.” No doubt Sir Henry made additions from time to time subsequently, as later dates are to be found, thus at page 24, 1696, and at page 256, 1697. We may therefore, I think, place the commencement of the composition

of his History at about 1680, when he was forty-eight years of age. The manuscript of his work had been shown to several antiquaries of repute (Bishop Gibson, as we have seen, was one of them); it received their approval, and he was encouraged to proceed to publication. As was the custom at this period, the risk of production was shared by a number of booksellers, who, it is believed, acquired shares in the venture according to the degree of their faith in its success.

The prospectuses are dated 1697 and the advertisement stating where they could be had appears in the *Post Boy*,* No. 316, the issue from Thursday, May 13th, to Saturday, May 15th, 1697. The advertisement, after giving the title-page, nearly, if not quite, in full, proceeds:—

“Those Gentlemen that are willing to subscribe for the said book, may have proposals at Ri. Chiswell’s at the Rose and Crown in St. Paul’s Church Yard; at Ben Griffin’s, in the Great Old Bailey Near Ludgate; at Sam Keeble’s at the Turk’s Head in Fleet Street, over against Fetter Lane; at Dan Brown’s at the Black Swan and Bible without Temple Bar; and Roger Clavel at the Peacock in Fleet Street over against Fetter Lane.”

There is an original copy of the Prospectus in the Baskerville folio in the British Museum, vol. i., folio 8, Add. MSS. 9062. To the year 1697 is added May 18th in manuscript. It reads:—

“Sir Henry Chauncy’s Proposals for Printing the History and Antiquities of Hertfordshire.

“This Treatise having been approved and recommended by several antiquaries who have had the perusal of it, as a work, that

* The *Post Boy* newspaper consisted of a single sheet of two pages, printed in double columns, foolscap size, and appeared three times a week.

will be both acceptable and useful to the Nobility and Gentry and give great satisfaction and information to those who have any Estates or Concerns in the said county and the publishing of it being very much desired by some Gentlemen ; it is now a-going to be put to the Press to be printed in as fair a character and in [on] as large and good paper as this Proposal and specimen is printed on ; but by reason of the Dearness of Paper and the Chargeableness of Print, the Book making a great many sheets, cannot be afforded under Twenty shillings a book in quires to the Subscribers, there being to be printed but 500 books which will not be sold after it is printed, to any but those gentlemen who subscribe for it, under Twenty-five shillings a book. It will make about 140 or 150 Sheets besides the maps, which will make 38 Sheets more so that it will be near 170 or 180 Sheets in all, or thereabouts. There will be in it a very large Map of the County in two sheets, a Map of St. Albans, a Map of Hertford and a Map of Hitching, with 35 Maps of the particular Sheets [Seats] and Monuments of several gentlemen. It is therefore desired by the undertakers, that such Gentlemen who are willing to encourage the Bringing of the said Treatise into public light, to subscribe their names for such Book or Books as they shall think fit underneath, no money being expected from them till they are printed and ready to be delivered to them."

The proposals as above, printed at the end of vol. ii. of the 1826 edition of the "Antiquities of Hertfordshire," are not complete. In the original they conclude thus :—

"It is desired of those Gentlemen, who so subscribe, to write down the Places of their abode, as well as their names underneath.

* * * * *

"We whose names are here underwritten, do severally promise each for himself to pay unto Ben Griffin, Sam Keeble, Dan Brown, or Roger Clavel, the sum of Twenty shillings for every Book in Quires (Entituled The History and Antiquities of Hertfordshire, etc.), which we do subscribe for : upon the delivery of the said Book."

The printers of the History as given in the title-page attached to these proposals are not quite the

same as those of the published work of 1700. They stand as under in the former :—

“London : Printed for Ben Griffin, Sam Keble, Dan Brown, and Roger Clavel, and to be sold at the Sign of the Turk’s Head, and at the Peacock over against Fetter Lane in Fleet Street, and at the Black Swan and Bible without Temple Bar. 1697.”

Ri. Chiswell first disappeared, to be followed by Roger Clavel, while in their places we have Dan Midwinter and Tho. Leigh at the “ Rose and Crown,” in St. Paul’s Churchyard. (*See* fac-simile of title-page.)

The quotation from Virgil found on the title-page to the published edition of 1700 is omitted in the specimen title of 1697.

There is an early advertisement of “The Antiquities” in the Catalogue of Books, No. 55, printed in 1694-5 (?). It reads :—

“The History and Antiquities of Hertfordshire, written by Sir Henry Chauncy, Knt., Serjeant-at-Law, will now be printed in Folio with all possible expedition, above Forty large copper plates being already engraved for the work. All those gentlemen who have Subscriptions in their heads, or intend to subscribe are desired to send in their First payment, being Eight shillings the Small and Twelve shillings the Large paper, before the 16th of March next to the undertaker, Thomas Bennet, at the Half Moon in St. Paul’s Church Yard, or John Bullard : because from the number then brought in, measures may be taken for enlarging the number of 500 at first designed to be published.” (Upcott’s Collections for English Topography (Herts.), vol. ii., folio 42, Add. MSS. 15922.)

This would seem to be premature notice of the work if the dates are to be relied upon, and it is of special interest as showing the original intention of printing large and small paper copies, afterwards very sensibly abandoned. But the correctness of the

date is largely discounted by the reference to the proposals, where 500 copies is stated as the number to which the impression was *first* designed to be limited, and we can therefore only presume that this advertisement must have been issued (if circulated at all), subsequently to that of 1697 and not three years earlier.

In 1700 "The Historical Antiquities of Hertfordshire" appeared, and, at the end of December the *Post Boy*, No. 892, from Tuesday, December 24th, to Thursday, December 26th, contained the announcement of it. The advertisement merely consisted of a verbatim copy of the title-page of "The Antiquities." It was repeated in No. 894, 28th to 31st December, 1700, and again in No. 902, January 16th to 18th, 1701. It may have been reproduced subsequently, but the numbers of the paper in the British Museum are not complete.

What reception the proposals met with and what subscriptions were received, cannot now be ascertained, nor do we know how the book fared at the hands of the public, as there do not appear to be extant any contemporary notices of it. Nathaniel Salmon, writing in 1728, is the earliest person to refer to it and his criticism is distinctly favourable. He says:—

"The Labor and Expense he was at to pick up memorials for the use of Posterity, out of the Dust and Rubbish to which War and Rapine had exposed them, and to range the fragments so as to afford present Entertainment to the Curious, as well as footing for future Enquirers, hath established his merit among the most knowing in Antiquities." (Salmon's "History of Hertfordshire," p. 323.)

An appreciative piece of criticism occurs in the preface to Bridge's "History of Northamptonshire" (1791), where we are informed that "To Sir Henry Chauncy the world owes much for a valuable delineation of Hertfordshire in plan and execution approaching nearly to a complete Standard of a provincial history."

On the other hand, J. P. Malcolm, in his "Lives of the Topographers and Antiquaries," 1815, says:—

"'The History of Hertfordshire' is the only work written by Chauncy on the antiquities of his native county. When compared with the labours of Dugdale, we perceive a lamentable deficiency, but, it must be acknowledged, the Author appears to have entered on his subject with an intention to afford his readers authentic information, which is not, however, always accomplished in the progress, probably through depending upon the accuracy of friends, who may have communicated notices to him from places he never personally examined.

"The gravity of his station in life and his general character forbid us for a moment to suppose Sir Henry was conscious of the errors discoverable in the monumental inscriptions, etc. The late Mr. Gough made a very valuable collection towards a History of this county. Another gentleman, every way well qualified, taking Chauncy for his director, collated and corrected many of the epitaphs and drew up many pedigrees in a manner equally beautiful and accurate; and, finally we are informed that a third person is about to avail himself of the labours of Chauncy and others, his predecessors, in order to present the public with a truly valuable History of Hertfordshire."

We must not, too, omit the very sweeping condemnation of Robert Clutterbuck in 1825. He says:—

"Of this work ('The Historical Antiquities') it was my first intention to have published a corrected edition, with a continuation of the descent of Manors, etc., to the present time: but the frequent digressions of the Author into matter foreign to the subject of a provincial history; his total omissions of many important particulars relating to the Church History of the

County; the defectiveness of his genealogical sketches; and his numerous errors in tracing the descent of property; have induced me to apply immediately to the more authentick and original Sources of historical and genealogical information; and to refer to this author by quotation, for such facts as are either exclusively his own, or are derived from private documents to me, at this period of time, inaccessible." (Clutterbuck's "History of Hertfordshire," vol. i., Preface.)

On the other hand, Mr. Mullinger, in his preface to the 1826 reprint of "The Historical Antiquities," states:—

"The lapse of more than a century since its first publication, far from diminishing its value, has only served to exalt it in the public esteem, and to establish its reputation among the learned. Nothing short of an attentive and full examination of its contents, can give a just idea of the labour, research and erudition, which its distinguished author must have employed in its execution. No accessible charter, record, or paper, public or private, relating to the County of Hertford, appears to have been neglected by its indefatigable historian. And scarcely any subject was brought before him in the course of his enquiries, without receiving from his pen some interesting and important elucidation."

With regard to "The Historical Antiquities," it seems desirable to give a brief description of its contents, reserving a fuller description until a little later. The work is in one volume folio, and the page divided into two columns: the collation is as follows:—

Title.

Dedication to John, Earl of Bridgewater, 4 pages.

Preface, 4 pages.

Historical Antiquities of Hertfordshire, 600 pages.

Degrees of Precedency, page 601.

Addenda et Corrigenda, 2 pages.

Index of the principal Matters and Names of Places, 11 pages.

Index of Names of Persons, 9 pages.

Correction of a Passage in page 84, and the Pedigree of the family of Willymots of Kelshal, 1 page.

And in some copies, printed directions for placing the cuts of the Gentlemen's Seats, Monuments, etc.

The title-page is a typical one of the period, rather crudely printed in red and black. It has been thought desirable to include a reduced fac-simile in this volume, as but few possess the folio edition. It is practically a prospectus of the work, and is certainly a key to the general contents.

The dedication to the Earl of Bridgewater is rather curious. We do not know what was the relationship between the two men, but it is not unreasonable to presume that the Earl had proved a useful patron to Sir Henry in his early struggles. We may indeed fairly trace to his influence the appointments which he obtained in Hertfordshire, and it is most likely that the Knighthood was given through the Earl's ascendancy with King James II. Indeed Chauncy refers to "the most transcendent Benefits and civilities that he had received" at the Earl's hands. As we can hardly believe that Chauncy's work required noble patronage, nor indeed can we see how it would be benefited thereby, his statement that "Prudence obliges me to devote these collections to your Lordship's Patronage under which they're likely to be most secure," must be simply regarded as a judicious compliment: one can only trust that the list of subscribers was largely augmented as a result of this diplomatic panegyric. From the Earl's biography we learn that he was "a just and good man, a faithful friend and a wise counsellor." He died almost as soon as the work saw light (19th March, 1700-1).

The preface to his work is characteristic of the man. Its original draft amongst the Chauncy Manuscripts previously referred to, the only fragment of Sir Henry's handwriting that has come to our notice, is of sufficient interest to print in full. The manuscript contains many interlineations, and in a few places is difficult to decipher.

THE PREFACE.

I have for some yeares last past, spent the vacant houres from my Imployment in the Study of Antiquity and History, not so much for my own Diversion, as the reall Good and Services of my Country, and the improvement of my Knowledge in the Lawes, for Antiquity discovers the Originall of Lawes; History shows the reason of their Institution; and records proue the Rights and Priviledges granted to the severall Burroughes and Liberties in this County; by which means I have enabled my selfe, to gratify the Desires of those Gentlemen, who have lost their Grants and Charters, and would willingly know the Priviledges, which belong to their severall man^{rs}: all which I intended to have set forth at large for their satisfaction; because they would strengthen and corroborate the Rights of every Proprietor, preserued their Pedigrees, and proue the Royalties, which every one hath in his manor: but the Discouragements of those Gentlemen, who mistook their Interest, when some delayed, and others deny'd me the opportunity, to assert their Rights; and the great Charge and Paines of searching offices, and transcribing the Charters and Grants, formerly made to the inferior Man^{rs}, besides the ungratefull and unnaturall usage, of those trecherous and perfidious persons, who not only wasted the money at Law, partly design'd for the collection of Records and the performance of this undertaking; but also made my Soule restlesse; and me unfit for a Work that requir'd the most calme, quiet, and serene thoughts, free from all interruptions and disturbances; and also my whole time and study, to search old legier Books; ransack mouldy Parchments; and examine overworne and blind Records;

continually renewing my Inquietudes beyound the calamities of Ovid, when he complained :—

“ Da mihi Meoniden et tot circumspice casus,
Ingenium tantis excidet omne malis.”

But notwithstanding the malice of those unquiet Spirits ; who delay'd this Worke for a time, and would have stifled it in its Birth, but thro' the aide of Heaven, which favour'd the Designe, encourag'd my assistant [?] and brought many things strangely to my knowledge ; *Hoc opus exegi*, I have finisht this great Worke ; which for the satisfaction of some Gentlemen possesst with a longing expectation of it ; I have expos'd to the Censure of the world, not so compleat as I intended, in respect of the great Charge of Records and the continuall disturbance of my thoughts, nor so correct as I desir'd, in regard of my frequent absence from the Presse, which perpetual troubles and my little leisure from my incessant employment, would not allow sufficient motives I conceive to induce all ingenious and considerate men, to excuse and amend all the litterall errors, hoping nevertheless it will not fall short of anything that has beene offer'd in the like nature to the Publick ; for I have not read any Author who hath treated of all the Manrs in every particular Parish in the like undertaking, as you will find in those collections.

In the Description of this County, I have preserv'd the true and ancient Names, which the Britaines gave in old time to every River and Rivulet in this Province ; because those Appelations were almost lost and extinguisht ; and show'd the Head and the Rise of the first springs that feed them ; because I found they were generally mistaken in all the maps ; then I set forth the several Divisions of the County, which the ancient Kings made for the ease of their Government ; with the originall Institution of those noble Titles, which they gave to the Nobility and Gentry, for the reward of their services ; and collected the Names of all the Chiefe officers and Governors ; showing their brave Deportment and glorious Atchievements ; that their children, and their Childrens Children in future Ages, may know the Quality, Power and Grandeur of their respective Ancestors ; whose Valour, Virtue, and Merits, have dignif'd their Name and their Posterity.

I have show'd what Inhabitants resided here before the Norman Conquest, and the great Revolution made by King William the first ; when he seiz'd all the Estates of the Saxons into his own hands and granted them to his Normans ; observed his Policy, and the

Lawes he made for the establishment of his Government ; when he created Tenures in Capite, and allow'd his Chiefe Tenants to grant their lands in parcels to their Friends and their Servants ; and some to the Saxons, who probably had beene the ancient owners, appointing, that they should hold them at their pleasure by such Rents and Services, as those Norman Lords were pleas'd to impose ; and by this politick and subtle Constitution, the Saxons were compell'd to perform their Services with the greatest obsequiousness imaginable ; otherwise were turn'd out of their Estates at the pleasure of their new Masters. And those Norman Lords were bound by their Tenures, to maintaine at their Charges such men and Horses, compleatly armed, so often, and for such a time as the King thought necessary, to support his Crown and Dignity, by which meanes that King could at any time raise on the suddaine, an Army of Men and Horse at the Charge of these Ten^{rs} ; every Knt Fee finding a man and Horse, well accoutred to keepe the English in Obedience at home, to attend him upon any Expedition abroad, and to support his Crown and Dignity without the assistance of a Parliament ; from hence everyone may observe the dangerous consequence that attends the Invasion of a Foreigne Prince ; let the Pretence be never so specious ; for 'tis the usuall method of Conquerors, to destroy the Natives and Proprietors who are or may be capable to oppose them ; and to advance all those who shall favour their broken Titles, and make their Estate dependent upon the Crowne, that they may be fixt and united to them in one and the same interest.

'Twas not my Designe to magnify the Prerogative, nor lessen the Rights and Liberties of the Subject, nor yet preferre one Government before another, which is the Reason I have beene cautious through my whole Discourse to conceale my own opinion and judgement ; that none may charge me with espousing any Party, Faction or Interest, a Fault not to be allow'd in an Historian for the good cause to entice the Reader to question the truth of his History ; but upon all occasions, have clearly, candidly, and impartially, related the Truth of all things, so farre as I could really collect from my Authors, or any Record, and left them to the judgement of the Reader.

For the greater ease of Finding out the Hundreds and Parishes in every Page, I directed the Printer to insert the Name of the Hundred over the first colume and the Parish over the others

and to distinguish the words I borrow'd from other Authors in a different character; but it happened, by reason of my Absence, and his Forgetfulness, the Name of the Parish over the second Colume was omitted; therefore I have endevour'd to supply that Defect by the Table to which I referre the Reader; and the printing my Quotations in a character that may be easily realiz'd by every discerning Reader.

I hold it my Duty and very necessary to show the antiquity of that Church whereof I acknowledge myself an unworthy member, for that some would make it, but as of yesterday; and to demonstrate to the world that the Religion established there is the same which our Saviour Christ instituted and the Apostles taught in the primitive Age, because they must certainly be most clear from Superstition, and Pure in it selfe; proving withall that set formes of Prayer were anciently used in the Christian Church, and to confirme what I have said, give me leave to add here, that they were establisht by several Cannons, one made at the Council held at Laodicia about the yeare 365 after the birth of Christ; another at the Council held at Miletis in short time after, where it was particularly ordain'd that no manner of Prayers should be used in the Church before they were approved of by a Synod; least new Prayers should containe that, which was contrary to the true Faith, either thro' the ignorance or the carelessness of the Composer; and I have observed that thro' the Wisdome of the Primitive Fathers, to ordaine Liturgies in old time, that they might be Repositories of Sound Doctrine, and Preservatives of the Catholick Faith; because they limited those Extravagant Spirits who could sow Heresy and Sedition as well by Prayer as by Preaching; and doubtless, this is the great Reason, that the Enemies of the Church of England, also the Sectaries, have always inveigh'd against the Liturgy used there.

In my Discourse of Monasteries some may perhaps censure my Vindication of the Chanoness of the Female Government in Nunneries against the Scandals and Calumnies which the Author of the Fraud of the Roman church hath suggested against them; but certainly women are best qualify'd for the government of those Religious Houses, which are compos'd of their own sex, and 'tis necessary that such Governesses should have a coercive power over all their Servants of either sex that ought to be subject or depend upon their Government without which their comands

would be contemptible and their Authority nothing; but that learned Author of the whole Duty of Man in his Preface to his excellent Treatise entituled The Ladies Calling, declares women are equal with men in the Sublime part of Humanity; their Souls are of as divine an Originall; their Bodies of the like Duration; and their persons as capable of infinite Beatitude; which is the transcendent excellence of humane Nature. They have generally the conduct and governmt of private Families committed to their care, and All mankind is subject to the tuition and pupilage of their mothers at home, or their Governesses at Schooll, during the primary yeares of their minority, when the mind is most ductible, and fit to receive Impression; and those women who have improv'd their parts by Education, and refin'd and subtiliz'd them by Art and Learning, often equall the returnes of men; Theano kept the Schooll of Pithagoras after his decease; and Socrates owned, that Aspatia learnt him Rhetorick, and Diotime taught him the highest points of Philosophy; and the Roman History shows the deep wisdome of Tanaquil, Cornelia, and Livia, the holy women whom Beda and other authors mention'd, which prove the Qualifications of this Sex for Learning and Government.

I have not presum'd to censure any Church for their errors, for that is a worke which God has reserv'd wholy to Himselfe; but since Antiquity and History is my proper Subject, and this Subject of Religion fell most properly in my Discourse of the old City of Verolam; which produc'd the first English Martyr, was the place where St. German refuted the Pelagian Heresy, and severall Councills have beene held for the propagation of Christianity, which made it famous for Religion to posterity. I have given the more particular account of Churches and Chappells in this County; that our successors may be sensible of the great Honor and Reverence, which their Auncestors and Predecessors formerly paid to these Holy Places; which they built and separated for the peculiar Service of Almighty God; when they thought no cost too much, no Charge too great, for the Beauty and Ornament of those Temples, which God was gratisly pleased to call His own Houses and appropriate for His peculiar Habitation and Service, though the Heaven of Heavens was too little to contain His Greatnesse, who declar'd the Heaven was His Throne and the Earth His footstoole; yet for our Capacities He condescended to fix His Name in those Houses, appointing that

there He would vouchsafe to heare our Prayers and grant our Petitions.

To these I have added the Inscriptions engrav'd upon several monuments and Gravestones, whereof some in ill Latine ; However I have followed the words of the copy ; because those Inscriptions are Records and memorials of our Auncestors, some of whome liv'd in great splendor and Glory in the former Ages, and made a huge Noise and Bustle in the world, till their allotted time was spent ; then their Spirits evaporated like the soft aire, their Lives past away like the trace of a Cloud, and now their Bodies are turn'd into ashes, and their Names forgotten, as tho' no such Persons ever had a Being here. However, to preserve the memory of our Ancestors whilst God shall please to continue this world, I have taken notice what remarkable persons have resided or dyed in every Parish, and given every One, whom I knew, his just weight so farre as I could learne, and if any have beene omitted it was not out of the least Disrespect but thro' hast ; or that they were strangers, whom I had never heard of ; and I have given their Coates of Armes in blazon, that it may be a Diversion to those, who may not understand Heraldry, and inserted some Pedigrees, such as I could obtaine ; among which I have been the larger in my owne ; not only to reforme a Mistake of an old Tradition in my Family ; but in regard of the generall Duty and Honour, which I ought to pay to my Auncestors and my Parents ; to whome next under God, I owe my Being ; for God commanded His own chosen People to record the Genealogies of their Families to Posterity, which they perform'd with great exactness, as is apparent in diverse places in Holy Writ ; till such time that their enemies burnt and destroy'd those Records, that they might reduce them to Obedience, with the greater ease ; and subject them to the government of Strangers ; but now there is greater use to be made of Pedigrees than heretofore ; for they will enable men to make out their Titles to Land, which they may hereafter claime by Descent upon the expiration of any long Termes or Estates ; and often happen, and may now be difficult for them to prove ; when offices are determin'd by act of Parliament, the Brasses taken away from Gravestones, and Registers of Christenings, Marriages, and Buryalls in most Parishes are lost, or made so imperfect ; that in some places no man can discover the Names or Surnames of the

children baptis'd, or the Persons maryed or buried; nor the Places of their Residence; nor their Titles nor additions; and there are no other Evidences, but Deedes to prove them which sometimes do not mention two Descents, seldome more, as formerly some were wount to expresse; so as the Gentlemen are now left remedilesse in the proofs of their Genealogies; which will be a great mischiefe in the next Age; unlesse his Majesty will in his great wisdome be gratiouly pleased, to make Provision herein for the future; neither ought you to have the meanner thoughts of those Families whose Pedigrees are wanting; for some have been omitted, thro' the great modesty of the Parties, or my unacquaintance with them, or upon the importunity of the Printer, to whom Pedigrees have not beene only troublesome, but also very chargeable.

I conceiv'd it necessary to insert the pious Benefactions and Charitable Gifts granted to the Church and Poore in all those Parishes where I could obtaine them, that they might not be embezeled, but preserved to future ages for the Honor of the Benefactors and the support of the good and holy ends, for which they were design'd, and that the security and right distribution of them, may encourage others to imitate those noble acts of Piety and Charity, which have beene so acceptable to God, that He has been pleased to terme them His own Relief.

I have treated of all the Man^{rs} in this County, which I found upon Record; and have been cautious to collect no more than the Deeds and Evidences of the Owners, than what I thought useful for my present occasion, necessary for the Proprietor, and convenient for the Lord to know in his man^r; omitting the other things, that no Doubt or Question in Law may be rais'd hereafter, upon any matter or thing contain'd herein to the Disquiet or Prejudice of the Possessor; and certainly this can be offensive to none, unlesse those, who would make use of their Neighbours Ignorance, to invade their Liberties, or pretend Right of Jurisdiction to that, which was never granted to them; but since 'tis impossible that nothing of moment should escape my knowledge in the first Impression of a Worke of this nature, I shall be thankfull to him that shall give me notice of anything that is wanting or mistaken herein, a Right which I may reasonably expect and claim from every ingenious person when I have upon no other account, than the Publick Good and Service of my Country, undertaken this expensive and elaborate worke, and

expos'd myself to the Censure of every Person who will give his Opinion according to his Fancy; but every ingenious and rationall man will seriously consider the Difficulties of this undertaking, before he spends his Judgment and affore others I desire, they will spare their Reflections, till they have made a better, for 'tis an easie matter to find fault but difficult to amend, much more to make; and if this shall gaine a favorable Reception in the World and obtaine the good Opinion of the Gentry and my time and leisure shall permit, I will correct what mistakes, or Errors, shall be discover'd to me: and adde all the Grants and Records, which I shall find, may be usefull to the Lords of the smaller Man^{rs}, and are here omitted, for their satisfaction, in an Appendix or Supplement, which I intend shall be printed by it selfe, that it may be annext to this Impression; because I will not put any Person to the Charge of a Book; and I wish this may encourage others to do the like Service for their Counties, because Books of this nature tend to the generall good of the whole Kingdome; therefore presume no ingenious and learned man will think any time lost or ill spent in so glorious a Worke, when Cicero tells us, *Non Nobis solum nati sumus, sed partim Patriæ.*

But some perhaps may object that these Collections will discover all the Churchlands in this County that were taken away upon the Dissolution of monasteries, which may prove very mischievous to the Owners; for should the Roman Religion prevaile hereafter in England, those Estates might be resum'd as the Lands of the Bishops and Deanes and Chapters were upon the restoration of the Government of the Church of England in the late Reigne of King Charles the second. This is a plausible argument and no easy matter to convince any prejudicte persons by Reason, who would willingly possesse weake People with such notions and fancyes, that they may thereby accomplish some sinister Ends, so long as they shall have any hopes to obtaine them; but if all those things shall be duly weighed and consider'd, every understanding man will be satisfied that

I. These collections containe not Lands in particular only Man^{rs} in generall and the Priviledges granted to them, therefore will be of no use to those who would make a particular Discovery of all Church Lands, for they will rather repaire to those offices where they can have at any time for their money, authentick copies of the particular Lands lately belonging to the dissolved Monasteries

and Churches, from the Records which will be of authority, neither can those coppies be of any use to them unlesse the Roman Religion should be establisht here, which seemes impossible for these Reasons. 1. The English People have generally a great aversenesse and prejudice to that Church in respect of their Cruelty and ill ususage of some of the reformed Party in the late Reigne of Queen Mary which will never be forgotten. 2. The Romish Church can never be settl'd here, untill the present establisht Religion be abolisht, which cannot easily be accomplit for that not only the Religion but also the Government of the English Church is so interwoven with the present Constitution and Government of this Nation, that the one cannot be alter'd without the other, for they depend upon the inseparable interest of each other.

II. Those Monasteries and Churches to which these Lands formerly belonged are pul'd down, destroy'd, or employ'd to other uses, so that they cannot be repair'd, ordain'd, and converted to the uses for which those Lands were formerly design'd.

III. This case differs much from that of Bishops Lands which were alienated by an unlawfull Convention, in the late time of Rebellion called in those daies, the Rump Parliament because they consisted of a remnant of the late House of Comons, who joyn'd together with some of the Army in an assembly, that murder'd the King, excluded the Lords with most of the Comons by the power of an army, subverted the Government of the Church, destroy'd the establisht Religion and converted the fundamental Government of the Kingdome into a Comonwealth ; all which actions were as unlawfull as their Power and Authority, by the establisht Lawes of the Realme ; but those Monasteries and Church Lands were sold by Statutes, ordain'd in several Parliaments, held in the Reignes of H. the 8th, and Edw. the 6th, by and with the concurrence of the King and the three Estates of the Kingdome, lawfully assembled together, wh are the highest and greatest Assurances we have in England ; and by the policy of King Henry the 8th, most of them were conveyed by sale or exchange, from the Crowne, to the Nobility and gentry of the Nation ; to the intent that they, their heires and assignes should be bound in point of interest, to defend and maintaine the sales of all these Lands in future ages ; by reason whereof the Romish party are now possesst of a great share in them, and doubtlesse will not easily be persuaded to relinquish them, when Pope Julius the third by Reginald Pole one of his Cardinals,

and his late Legate in England, ratify'd all these Sales by his Bull, which was confirm'd by the Stat. of I. and II. of Philip and Mary, in which is a clause that whosoever shall disturbe or molest any person for any such Lands should incurre a Premunire; so that Queen Mary could not restore the Lands alienated from the Church of St. Albans when she attempted it, and granted the Scite of that Monastery to Richard Boreman the last Abbot for that purpose; and those Estates have since been so well fortify'd by Fines and Non-claimes working upon the Statute, that they are now better secur'd by the Law than any other Estates in England.

I have narrated of many things that are foraine that these Collections may be of more use to all sorts of people and more divertible to every kind of reader. But I claime nothing here to be my owne than the method; the rest I have faithfully collected from Records and the choicest Authorities, which are the best memorials of Truth; but as to the strange Relations, which I have made from Monks, and may not seeme credible in this Age, I will not censure; for in the primitive time of Christianity God did miraculous things, to manifest to the world the truth of his Word, and the Allsufficiency of His Power; neither will I impose them upon the Reader for a Truth, but leave them to his credit or diversion.

In the whole course of this History, I have taken notice what was remarkable in every place, and show'd the originall of it, for the delight and the satisfaction of the Reader; and 'tis observable from the establishments made by the Conqueror that all the Rights and Priviledges, the Liberties and Fredomes which the People now enjoy, have been since derived by the Crowne, by the gracious Concessions of the Kings of this Realme; of our moderne Princes having so freely gratify'd their Subjects in this kind, that they have left nothing for their Successors now to doe, unlesse it be to confirme those most obliging Graces of their Predecessors to the People; inasmuch that the Government of England is now so well composed in all points for the preservation of the Rights, Priviledges, and Fredome of all sorts and degrees of People, that it exceeds the government of all Nations in the world, where none enjoy the like fredome and Liberty, which the comon sort of people have in England; and if they shall weigh the Rights of the Prerogative with the liberties of the Subject in an equall ballance, it will make the People very Easy and Quiet; but if either Party shall invade the

Right of the other, the whole frame of the Body politick will be out of order; for it assimulates the naturall Body of a man, which is discompos'd, when any part exceeds the due course of nature; but whilst King and People shall keepe within the Bounds and Constitutions of their Government, the one will be alwaies a support to the other and the union will render Both most Happy.

It would seem from the references in the preface to record searching that he had employed some person to undertake this very necessary work for him as well as utilising his leisure during the vacations on similar researches. His means, as has been seen, were never large, and if the excessively high charges of archivists for record searching at this period, when all the national archives are practically in order and may be examined freely, bears any proportion to the cost at that date, the expense must have proved a heavy drain upon Sir Henry's income. His comments on the antiquity of the county and incidentally on the feudal system are followed by a disclaimer of any partiality towards the Crown or the Commonwealth—the political horizon was none too bright and as an historian and a public man he was anxious not to offend his readers. His justly indignant references to the destruction of monuments, brasses, and registers, and the misappropriation of charities, were doubtless the result of painful experience. But the elaborate explanations of the permanent disposition of monastic property is not a little curious. These evidently point to a prevalent belief in the possible dispossession of the then owners of confiscated lands, a delusion that Sir Henry seems especially anxious to dispel, and in this respect his official position would give great weight to his utterances.

The remarks with reference to the appendix or supplement to the "Historical Antiquities" are especially interesting. The correspondence I have printed shows that this must have been in a fairly advanced state, and it can only be assumed that want of support or failing health caused him to abandon the project. The story that the author had by him considerable additions and continuations, which came afterward into the hands of Nathaniel Salmon and were the chief foundations of his "History of Hertfordshire" lacks proof (Gough's "British Topography," vol. i., 1780, p. 419). The "Biographia Britannica," 2nd ed., 1784, repeats the tradition, and states that the information was received from Mr. Nathaniel Chauncy. If this was the case it is curious that Salmon has omitted to make any acknowledgment of their use. The Rev. Paul Wright, Vicar of Oakley in Essex, who was formerly a curate and lecturer at Hertford, stated that, having received some manuscript papers relative to Sir Henry Chauncy's work, he proposed to publish an accurate edition of it up to the present time, but this was never done ("The General Biographical Dictionary," 1848). In a prospectus, however, he styled himself "Editor of Chauncy." The fate of his papers is unknown, but it is to be feared that they shared the fate of most manuscripts on the owner's decease, and were consigned to the flames (*see* Appendix D).

The "Historical Antiquities" is said to be disfigured by "digressions" that are "pedantic," but it is not easy to decide in what respect they are more pedantic than the rest of the work. Their defect seems

to be that they disagreeably interrupt the narrative. It should, however, be remembered that if they are sometimes lengthy, they are often amusing and always instructive ; that few histories of the kind had appeared before his, and that readers of that day needed explanations on many matters that to most of us are now fairly familiar, while his information was nearly always derived from his study of legal procedure. Footnotes were not customary at that period ; had they been so these digressions would have found an appropriate place among them and the interruption would have been avoided. It should be noted, too, that the author was not insensible of the irregularity of these digressions, as appears by the passage in the preface in which he says :

“ Some things foreign to my subject may be found interspersed in the following sheets, which I borrow from good Authorities, and have inserted for the delight and diversion of those who shall peruse the Papers, thinking it no Crime (were I furnished with sufficient Abilities) to mingle with necessary truths, all that variety of Thought and Diversity of Notions which might render them as grateful and pleasant, as they are useful and beneficial.”

The following analytical description of “ The Historical Antiquities ” is extracted from a scarce publication entitled, “ The Librarian,” vol. i., August 1st, 1808 :—

“ This work opens with a general account of the County, comprising—(1) The Soil. (2) The Rivers, which are the Thames, the Pirre or Pirrall, the Hiz, the Oughton and the Rhee, all of which rise on the borders of Hertfordshire and immediately run into other counties ; the Verlume, Ver, or Mure, the Colne, the Gade, the Bulborne, the Luy (or the Lea), the

principal Rivers of this County ; the Mimeran, or Marran, the Kime, the Beane, or Benefician, the Rib, the Quin, the Ash, the Stort, and the New River, or Middleton's Waters ; all these run through the body of the county. The Laws made to preserve the Navigation of the River Lea from London to Ware and Hertford are then given, and an account of the cutting of the New River from the Springs at Shadwell and Amwell to London by Sir Hugh Middleton. (3) Of Medicinal Waters found at Barnet, Northall, and at Cuffely, and the Petrifying Springs at Broadfield and Clothall. (4) Of the Air. (5) Of the Inhabitants and the Tenures by which the Saxons held their lands ; with a list of the Tenants in Capite, or those who held lands in this County at the time of the Domesday Survey.

“Sir Henry then treats of the Government, and gives an account of the distinctions observed among men during the feudal times. These distinctions include Military Men, Socmen, and Labourers. Among the first are reckoned the Great Barons, the Vavasours, Thanes, Knights, Esquires and Gentlemen ; the second consisted of Socmen in ancient Demesne, Socmen by free service, and Socmen by base service ; the third sort were the Bordars, Cotars, Villans, Servants and Rustics. He then gives the History of the introduction of Arms to distinguish the Military ; and proceeds to describe the nature of the Military Service, and the gradations by which the people came to be admitted into a share of the Government, by choosing representatives to sit in Parliament.

“ He next gives a list of those gentlemen who resided in the County of Hertford in the time of King Henry VI. who could expend £10 per annum, the number of whom then amounted to eighty. Then follows a Catalogue of the Members of Parliament for this County from the twentieth of Edward I., to the seventh of William III. The manner in which the Counties were governed by the Saxons and Danes is next mentioned ; after which is given an account of the Earls of Hertford, beginning with Richard Strongbow, son of Gilbert de Tonebridge, who about the year 1124 obtained the title of Earl of Hertford, and of whose family there succeeded seven other Earls, the last of whom was killed in the Battle of Bannockburn in Scotland, in 1314. In 1537, King Henry VIII. created Edward Seymour, Viscount Beauchamp, Earl of Hertford, in whose family the title yet continues. This part is concluded by a List of the Sheriffs of Hertfordshire from the Conquest to the year 1696, and an account of the Lords-Lieutenant of Counties.

“ The Topographical part now commences, and is divided into five divisions. The first is an account of the divisions of the Hundreds of Odsey and Edwinstrye, in which is described the Boundary of the Hundred of Odsey, and the Topography of the sixteen Parishes contained in that Hundred. In the history of Kensworth Sir Henry gives an account of the origin of Parishes, and in that of Ashwell of the endowment of Churches. Under the Parish of Caldecote he introduces the history of the Right of Presentation to Churches : in that of Radwell an account of the

payments called Procurations and Synodals ; and under Risden takes occasion to enter upon the manner of creating Serjeants-at-Law, of whose office and privileges he gives a detailed account. In the Parish of Therfield he takes notice of the Degree of Doctor of Divinity and its origin.

“ The author now enters upon the Hundreds of Edwinstree, corrupted from Ermine Street, the name of the Roman Road which crosses it ; it contains twenty-five Parishes. In giving an account of the first Parish, Barley, he shortly mentions the History of the Origin of Manors, and under Barkeway treats of the Formation and History of the Court Leet. Under Ainstree is given a short account of the office of Churchwarden and its origin, and in his description of the Parish of Aspeden there is a long account of the Banquet and Masque given by Ralph Freeman, Sheriff of London, in 1633, to King Charles I. and his Queen. Under Albury he treats of the office of Baron of the Exchequer ; and in the History of Hadham Parva gives an explanation of several words used in the grants of our earlier Kings, viz., Soc, Sac, Toll, Them, Infangthef, and Outfangthef, Hamsoken, Grithbreach, and Frithsoken.

“ The second division of this County comprises the liberty of the Hundreds of Braughing and Hertford, the former of which contains thirteen Parishes. Under the Parish of Bishop Stortford, Sir Henry gives the History of Bells, and their introduction into Churches, and in that of Standon an account of the order of Knights Banneret.

“ The Hundred of Hertford comprises the Town and liberty of Hertford and fifteen Parishes. In giving the history of that town the author introduces an account of the origin and quality of the Boats and Vessels made use of in Navigation by the ancients ; the origin of Cities and Towns ; the history of the invention of Music and its introduction into Religious Worship, accompanied by the Organ ; an account of Christ’s Hospital in London, and that branch of it in this Town. In the Parish of Thele he explains the term Donative, as applied to an Ecclesiastical Benefice.

“ The third division of the County comprises the Hundreds of Bradewater and Hitchin ; the former of which, containing twenty-six Parishes, is first described. In the Parish of Hatfield Sir Henry introduces a history of the origin of the noble Order of the Garter ; in that of Eyot St. Lawrence an account of Rahere, founder of the Hospital of St. Bartholomew, in London, and the vision which induced him to undertake that foundation ; in Knebworth an account of the order of Knighthood among the Grecians and Romans, etc. ; in Baldock the history and form of proceeding in Trial by Ordeal, with Fire or Water, with the Ritual observed in those purgations, and an account of the Trial by Battle.

“ The fourth division of this County comprises the Hundred of Caishoe, the history of which commences with an account of the Roman City of Verulam, and of the affairs of the People in Britain ; of the introduction of Christianity into this Island ; Life of St. Alban, History of the Town and Abbey of

St. Alban's; Pensions to the Abbot and Monks of this Monastery at the dissolution; Charters granted by King Edward VI.; List of Members of Parliament for this Borough, from the first of Queen Mary to the seventh of William III.; List of Mayors, Stewards, Recorders, Chief Burgesses, Aldermen, Chamberlains, Town Clerks and Assistants; Accounts of the Hospital of St. Julian, and St. Mary de Pre; Chapel of St. Germain; Manors belonging to the Abbey of St. Alban's Monastery of Sopwell; persons that have received their honours from this Town; eminent persons born here, viz., Sir John Mandeville, Sir John King, and Sir Francis Pemberton. In the Parish of Aldenham is given the History of the title of Duke.

“The fifth division of this County contains the Hundred of Dacorum; and in the Parish of Harpenden is given an account of the degree of Barrister-at-Law, and of the Inner and Middle Temple in London; in that of North Mims will be found the Life of Sir Thomas More; and in that of Shenley an account of the office or profession of Attorney.”

The plates which illustrate Chauncy's work are deserving of notice, although Gough says: “It were to be wished more care had been taken in the engravings.” It has been suggested that his original intention was to issue it with at most a portrait of himself and a map, but probably the offer of a few persons to contribute plates representing their houses induced him to approach the owners of other estates, with the result that some thirty-two mansions are

there represented. It was hoped that it might have been possible to ascertain what number of these mansions remain at this date but little changed, what have been extensively altered, and what entirely rebuilt, but as fully a third of the inquiries were unacknowledged, and in several other cases a personal visit would have been essential, it has been found necessary to omit any detailed reference to the engravings. It may be stated, however, that it is believed only two houses remain sufficiently unaltered to be easily identified with the illustrations of 1700. These are Brent Pelham Hall and Little Offley. Pishiobury also has many features of the Jacobean house remaining.*

The major portion of the illustrations are by J. Drapentier, an artist who resided in London, but was not apparently a native. Thirty-three are inscribed by him, and, as it is probable that the five monuments are from his drawings, this gives a total of thirty-eight out of the forty-six. He worked with the graver in a style sufficiently neat but without taste. He possessed strange ideas of perspective, but his buildings are accurate as far as one may judge from the two or three that remain comparatively unaltered. Reference has been made to the portrait of Sir Henry when dealing with his life. The Map is on the scale of about two miles to an inch, on a thin paper, size $18\frac{3}{4}$ by $14\frac{1}{4}$. It was engraved by Herman Moll. It resembles Seller's Map of 1676,

* Thanks are due to the owners of Julians, Hamels, Newsells, Cokenach, Pishiobury, Hunsdon, Balls, Temple Dinsley, Offley Place, Little Offley, Stagenhoe, Tring Park, Pendley, The Hoo, and Bushey Hall, for their courtesy and interest in the subject of this inquiry.

and shows the hundreds, rivers, roads, towns, and villages, gentlemen's houses and parks, water and windmills, and other details. The meridians are marked in the margin. In the top border "Longitude East from London in minutes of Time." In scrolled panel in left-hand top corner, "The County of Hertford with Additions and Corrected and Amended in many places.—H. Moll Fecit, A.D. 1700." To the right of the map against the top border is the scale of miles, and "English miles 60 in one Degree." In the right-hand bottom corner "The Explanation of this Mapp," with particulars of the various signs employed.

The illustrations of Monuments are but five. The first is a half-sheet plate of the monument to Sir John Jocelin, Bart., and Philippa, his wife, showing their recumbent effigies, in Sawbridgeworth Church.* This was presented by Sir Robert Jocelyn. The instructions are for this to be placed at p. 81, but it should be placed at p. 186, where a description of it is to be found. The second, p. 185, is an engraving of the monument to George, Lord Hewett, 1689, said by Cussans to be large and badly executed. His statue, carved in marble, life-size, represents him in armour, with a flowing peruke, his right hand resting on his helmet. Above are his arms and on either side a group of military accoutrements. Two weeping cherubs support a curtain beneath containing a lengthy inscription. On brackets above the monument were his sword, coronet, spurs and gloves, all of which have now disappeared.

* These still exist on the south side of the chancel, but have suffered much injury during the past two centuries.

The third plate, at p. 185, represents the monument to Sir Thomas Hewitt and his wife Mary. The former died in 1637, the latter in 1646. The monument is in black and white marble containing within an oval medallion alto-relievo busts of the Knight in armour, with his left hand on his sword, and his wife holding a book in her left hand, their right hands clasped together. Beneath is an inscription in parallel columns.

The other two monuments are to members of the Gore family at Gilston. One is a marble monument containing in an oval medallion the sculptured figure of a child, with weeping cherubs partly hidden by curtains on either side and two smaller winged cherubs above, and is to the memory of Bridget, the daughter of Sir John Gore, who died in 1657. The other is a large monument, surmounted with arms and crest with emblematical figures, partly draped, on either side and a winged head below the words, "A Prisoner of Hope," to the memory of Sir John Gore (1659), with a fulsome inscription by Bishop Patrick.

John Savage, who engraved the portrait of Sir Henry, is also responsible for the views of Throcking and Broadfield. This artist resided in London, near Doctors' Commons, and, in addition to working for booksellers or publishers, he engraved several portraits on his own account. John Oliver, who engraved four plates—the town of St. Albans, Berkhamstead Place, Pendley House, and Tring House—was more noted for his skill in painting on glass, a vocation he followed until he became very old.

He was eighty-four years of age in 1700. The views by him are, if anything, superior to those of Drapentier, but he was, like Savage, better as a portrait painter than a delineator of buildings.

The list of plates is found in but few copies, the total being forty-five. Of these three are usually missing, viz., those of Standon Lordship, Hertford Town, and Newsell's Bury. It is difficult to suggest a reason for their frequent omission, save that they were not engraved until much later than the others, and thus missed reaching the subscribers.* After the sheets were issued to the subscribers (possibly only a few copies) it was found that four leaves contained Errata sufficiently important to require their cancellation and the substitution of others. These were pp. 5-6, 121-2, 253-4 and 303-4.

There are fairly numerous errors in the pagination. Pages 19 and 20 are omitted, pages 23 and 24 are repeated and follow; page 186 is printed for 178; page 191 is printed for 183; pages 191 and 192 are repeated and pages 193 and 194 are omitted; page 112 is printed for 212; pages 299, 300, 301 and 302 are marked 301, 302, 303 and 304; page 304 is printed for 318; page 337 is printed for 329; pages 343 and 344 are printed for 335 and 336; page 409 is printed for 400; page 408 is printed for 410; page 401 is printed for 415; pages 467 and 468 are printed for 455 and 456; page 450 for 470; page 498 is printed for 490; page 495 is printed for 503; page 545 is printed

* I possess a perfect copy, and if a sufficient number of subscribers intimate their wish to possess the three plates in question at 7s. 6d. the set, I shall be pleased to undertake the reproduction, in facsimile, of these desiderata.

for 544; and pages 551 and 552 are printed 553 and 554.

Savage gives a list of the Pedigrees in the "Historical Antiquities" as follows:—

Allington, of Wymondley, p. 303.
Austen, of Stagenhoe, p. 414.
Barrington, of Gravely, p. 366.
Baud, of Hadham Hall, p. 154.
Berners, of Hadham Magna, pp. 160, 161.
Billers, of Thorley, p. 172.
Blunt, of Ridge, p. 503.
Boteler, of Woodhall, p. 333.
Bourstal, of Ayot St. Lawrence, p. 325.
Brograve, of Braughing, p. 227.
Capel, of Hadham Hall, p. 155.
Cecil, of Hatfield, now Marquis of Salisbury, p. 308.
Chauncy, pp. 55-60.
Cock, of Cheshunt, p. 296.
Coningsby, of North Mimms, p. 462.
Coningsby, of Potterells, p. 531.
Dacre, of Cheshunt, p. 301.
De Magnaville, of Sawbridgeworth, p. 173.
Denny, of Cheshunt, p. 300.
Docwra, of Offley, p. 406.
Fairclough, of Fairclough Hall, p. 375.
Flyer, of Uttoxeter, p. 142.
Fountain, of Brockmans, p. 531.
Frowick, of North Mimms, p. 462.
Gardener, of Amwell Parva, p. 264.
Helwish, or Elwes, p. 118.
Hoo of Hoo, Lords Hoo and Hastings, p. 510.
Jocelyn, of Hide Hall, p. 183.
Lee, of St. Julian's, p. 459.
Leventhorpe, of Shingay Hall, p. 182.
Lytton, of Knebworth, p. 353.
Maynard, Lords Maynard, p. 40, and in the Addenda.
Mildmay, of Pishiobury, p. 179.
Moryson, of Cashiobury, p. 484.

More, of More Hall, or Gobions, p. 534.
 Nevil, of Berkhamstead Parva, p. 281.
 Pilkington, of Stagenhoe, p. 413.
 Poultney, of Shenley, p. 535.
 Pulter, of Loughborough, p. 73.
 Robinson, of Cheshunt, p. 302.
 Sadlier, of Temple Dinsley, p. 398.
 Say, of Sawbridgeworth, p. 174.
 Scales, Baron Scales, pp. 99, 100.
 Seymour, Earls of Hertford, p. 21.
 Sherburne, of Stonyhurst, p. 62.
 Shotbolt, alias Battalion, p. 61.
 Spencer, of Offley, p. 405.
 Strongbow, Earls of Hertford, p. 21.
 Taverner, of Hexton, p. 518.
 Tredenham, of Ware, pp. 208, 209.
 Throckmorton, of Chisfield, p. 368.
 Vere, Earls of Oxford, pp. 134, 136.
 Waterhouse, of Hemsted, p. 548.
 Willymot, of Kelshall, on the last page of the Book.

Sir Henry's proposal to issue a supplement containing additions and corrections to his work was never to be realised, but that he fully intended to issue it is seen from his letters to Dale and Le Neve. The former are taken from Nichols' "Illustrations of the Literary History of the Eighteenth Century," 8 vols., 1817-58.

SIR HENRY CHAUNCY TO ROBERT DALE ESQ.
 HERALD'S OFFICE, NEAR DOCTOR'S COMMONS.

ARDELEY, *March 20, 1711.*

Sir,—I am in great straight for that part of Doomsday book which contains Hertfordshire that I lent you, and I shall own the Kindness if you will add a copy of the sheet that was wanting when I delivered it, which you said you would supply me with; for you know the engagement I lye under in my preface to correct the errors that may be discovered in the Antiquities

of Hertfordshire, a promise lately claimed from me by the Gentlemen of that County at their last Sessions of the Peace, and perusing the erratas I find I cannot perform that task without the view of those papers which make me earnestly desire you would send them to me by Browne a higler where horses stand at the Oxford Arms in Warwick Lane near Newgate Market, and comes out of Town every Friday in the forenoon before twelve of the clock, and it will come safe to me at Ardeley. And if you will please to let me know the health and welfare of yourself, your lady, and family, and the changes and alterations in your Office, it would be a great diversion to your old friend, and if you could at any time of leisure take a trip to Ardeley, and let me know it, horses would attend you at Ware, Broadwater, or such other place as you shall like better; for nothing is more pleasant to me than the society of my old acquaintance, especially Mr. Dale. I am with all respect,

Dear Sir,

Your most humble Servant

H. CHAUNCY.

(Nichols' "Illustrations of Literary History," vol. iv., p. 79.)

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

ARDELEY, 22nd April, 1712.

My old Friend,—Having not heard from you for a long space of time, your silence did create in me a Thousand fears and anxious thoughts, that you had left this World, or quitted your habitation, or was removed into some remote parts, where my letter could not find you, for I am confident nothing less could be the occasion: and whilst I was considering with myself how I could obtain that certainty, to my great joy, I received a line under your own hand, which gave me assurance not only that you was in being among the living, but at your old lodgings, in good health and welfare where I wish you may long continue and heartily rejoice at the increase of your pretty family, wishing you all the joy your heart can imagine. I thank you for the care you have taken of my manuscript; and the addition you have made to it, for it will be very serviceable to me in the perfecting of my Antiquities, and when that work is done I shall endeavour to discharge the Debt you claim, for I shall not forget my old obligations to you and that I may be capable to discharge the same with greater expedition, I desire you

would be pleased to convey these Manuscripts by Browne the Higler whom you may find at his Inn called the Oxford Arms, in Warwick Lane near Newgate Market on every Friday evening in the Week, it will come safe to

Him who is
Your very obliged humble Servant
H. CHAUNCY.

An Humour that breaks out on the right side of my head and roof of my mouth makes me so uneasy that I can scarcely eat, drink, or talk. My service to your good lady and family, the alterations and changes in your Office would be a great diversion to me if for your advantage.

(Address) For Robert Dale Esq. at his lodgings in the Herald's Office near Pauls in London.

In vol. iii., p. 709, of the Stow Manuscripts in the British Museum is the following letter to Peter Le Neve :—

III. THE SAME TO PETER LE NEVE.

ARDELEY BURY,

25 Nov. 1714.

Sir,—Methinks 'tis so long since I had the happiness to hear from you that I should gladly know the assurance of your health, and what progress you have made in your Antiquities of Norfolk,* and my experience of your learning and knowledge in the British and English Records and the improvement I have formerly made by your assistance in matters of that nature, this encourages me to pray the continuance of your favour and let me know whether you have found any mention of those three families in this enclosed paper: and the substance thereof: you will further oblige

Sr

Your most obedient Serv.

H. CHAUNCY.

Be pleased to direct your answer to me at Ardeley Bury by Stevenadge Bagge.

(Address) These for Peter Le Neve Esq.
King at Arms at the College of Arms at the Herald Office, London.

* For an account of Le Neve's Norfolk Collections, see Preface to "Paston Letters," edited by James Gairdner, 3 vols., 1872-5.

On the back of this letter is the following memorandum:—

25 Nov. 1714.

Sir Henry Chauncy, Kt.

What became of the collections to which he refers is unknown, and it is most probable that they were ultimately destroyed. There are, it is believed, no early manuscript collections relating to the county in existence, or if so, they are in private libraries, inaccessible and undescribed.

“The Historical Antiquities” was reprinted in 1826, by Mr. J. M. Mullinger, the Bookseller of Bishop’s Stortford, in two volumes, at (I believe) a guinea a volume. He states in his preface that copies of the folio were seldom to be obtained for less than twenty pounds, and one had been known to be sold for as much as forty pounds.

The index, he states, is divided into two in the reprint, the first containing a list of places, with references to the events of their local history, the other relating to matters of general information.

The reproductions of the engravings are the worst feature of this useful reprint—they are wretchedly executed, and quite spoil the appearance of these well-printed volumes. Doubtless it was a question of cost, the art of lithography was then in its infancy, while reduction by photography was of course unknown.

An enumeration of specially interesting copies of the folio edition of “The Historical Antiquities” may be useful.

I. One in the possession of Major W. A. Chauncy, that has come down directly from Sir Henry. It

contains many notes in the author's handwriting, but unfortunately the majority are not readable, owing to the circumstance that when the book was bound, in 1772, the edges were cut away, and so most of these notes are mutilated. It has also notes by Dr. Angel Chauncy, his grandson, and others by hands that cannot be identified.

II. One in the library of the Society of Antiquaries, which belonged to Peter Le Neve, Norroy King of Arms, and has been copiously annotated by him. On the top of the title-page, in Le Neve's hand, is:—

“This copy is referred to in Chalmers' “*Biog. Dic.*” Mr. Forester of Bradfield in this County father of Dr. Pulter Forester Chancellor of Lincoln and a near relative of Sir Henry Chauncy had made large additions to Sir Henry's book. The copy was in the hand of the late William Forester Esq. who died about 1767. Of this copy Gough remarks, ‘The copy of Chauncy's History with MS. additions by the Foresters was bought after the death of Dr. Pulter Forester Chancellor of Lincoln by B. White who sold it for £88.’ The additions contained only a few incumbents and land owners.”

III. The antiquary, Browne Willis, had a copy in which he made marginal notes; it was borrowed of his grandson by the antiquary Cole (into whose possession it afterwards came), and he copied the notes. They are of little value.

IV. In Chalmers' “*Biog. Dic.*” it is said “these two copies with copious additions in MS. were given by Gough to the Bodleian Library.” In the index to that library in the British Museum, I can only find one copy of the book, and it is not stated that it contains notes.

V. “Hale Wortham, of Royston, possesses a very valuable copy of Chauncy's History, which formerly belonged to the Rev. Thomas Tipping, of Ardeley. The notes of Mr. Tipping,

continued by a later hand, down to about the year 1790, have been of great service to me in this work." (Cussans' "Hertfordshire," vol. i., p. 88.)

VI. The Baskerfield folios in the British Museum. The title of it is: "Chauncy and Salmon's History of Antiquities of Hertfordshire, Illustrated by Thomas Baskerfield, Junr., F.A.S., 1799." The two first volumes are given to Chauncy, and the third to Salmon. A copy of these works has been taken to pieces and the pages fastened to blank sheets of paper, and the illustrations, which consist of engravings, etc., of kings and celebrated persons, scenes and events mentioned in the work, have been interspersed among them and all bound up together into three volumes. There are also many water colours and Indian ink sketches of churches, houses, etc., some of which are very prettily executed, many being by Baskerfield himself. There are also maps of 137 parishes, on a large scale, taken from an actual survey of Hertfordshire, by Drury and Andrews, in 1798. Some biographical notes, both printed and in the handwriting of Baskerfield, and other manuscript matter by him, are added, but they are of no great importance; and their value is diminished by the omission, in most cases, of the authorities from whence they are derived. The volumes are nevertheless interesting.

VII. The copy in the reference library of the British Museum has a few notes; it belonged to Francis Hargrave, and has the following memorandum, in his hand, on the fly leaf:—

"A copy of this book was bought at the sale of the famous Mr. Addison's books Leigh and Sotheby's for fifteen guineas in 1799."

Of copies without notes there are no doubt plenty, one in possession of Captain W. H. Chauncy, that has come down to him direct from the Author, through his son Arthur. There are three in the King's Library, and one in the Grenville Library, besides the folios first mentioned in the British Museum, and the one in the Bodleian.

As to the value of copies of the first edition. Since the issue of the reprint, in 1826, prices have gradually declined. According to Lowndes' "Bibliographer's Manual," 1858, it sold for the following amounts:—

Nassau sale	...	...	...	...	£	26	0	0
Dent (with odd plates and drawings)					27	16	6	
Edwards (Russia)	...	...	...	...	24	3	0	
Dowdeswell	...	...	...	...	26	15	6	
White Knights' (Morocco)	...	...	...	...	26	5	0	
Sykes	...	...	...	...	20	9	6	
Roxburgh (wanting the three plates)					16	5	0	
Heath (bound by Roger Payne)	...				35	14	0	

At Christie's, December, 1868, two copies were sold, one for £14 2s., and the other for £10. At the Sunderland sale, in 1862, a copy fetched £16. In a recent catalogue of Quaritch's copies are offered for £6, and one, the Roxburgh, for £18 10s. A fair average price of a perfect copy appears to be from £8 to £10. The octavo edition fetches about £1 if cut down, or uncut, £1 10s. The statement that there was a large and small paper edition of this latter reprint seems to have no foundation.

APPENDIX D.

REV. PAUL WRIGHT, B.D., F.S.A., AFTERWARDS D.D.

Some account of this eccentric man may be of interest. This ingenious but incurably necessitous author was educated in the Grammar School of Christ's Hospital. He was for some time curate and lecturer of All Saints, Hertford. In 1773 he circulated proposals for printing, by subscription, in one volume quarto, price one guinea, Sir Henry Chauncy's "History of St. Albans and its Archdeaconry continued to the present Time with the Antiquities of Verulam," including, among other manuscript collections, those of Mr. Webster, many years surgeon there, whose drawings of various antiquities in that neighbourhood were to be engraved.

On this subject he published the following advertisement:—

"Paul Wright, B.D., formerly curate and lecturer of All Saints, Hertford, having some MS. papers to Sir Henry Chauncy's elegant 'History of Hertfordshire,' designs to publish an accurate edition of that elaborate work with continuations to the present time, therefore hopes for communications from the nobility, clergy and gentry of that county, directed to him at Oakley, in Essex, post paid. The Editor will not content himself with the communications of the noble, the learned, and generous contributors to this work, but will visit every parish in person in search of antiquities, that nothing may be wanting to make this work as complete as possible."

In May, 1775, the "History of St. Albans" was promised to be put to press as soon as the Editor should meet with sufficient encouragement, of which he failed. He died at his vicarage of Uckley, Ugley, otherwise Oakley, May 8th, 1785.

In John Nichols' "Illustrations of Literary History of the Eighteenth Century," vol. iii., 179, is the following:—

"Dr. Paul Wright is noticed by Mr. Cole (the Cambridge Antiquary): 'He is Rector of Oakley, near Saffron Walden in Essex, and in 1769, at the commencement at Cambridge, printed bills for a new edition with additions of Sir Henry Chauncy's "History of Hertfordshire." He then plagued me for assistance in it, but I soon found him to be a most odd and extravagantly ridiculous person and by no means qualified to undertake such a work. He wanted me and others in the University to sign a paper of recommendation to be received a Member of the Antiquarian Society which I declined, however he got one somewhere, for in Dec., 1770, he was admitted a Fellow of that Society. He is

a married man, and has a son a jeweller in London (where the father was born) and educated in St. Paul's School as he told me, he then gave me a printed bill of his shop if I wanted anything in his way. He has since printed a book on Heraldry. I have met with few people of his assurance. I was told July 23rd, 1778, that he was Rector of Snoring in Norfolk. To publish himself in the Cambridge Chronicle Rector of Snorin' and Vicar of Ugly would have excited a laugh in the University, so when he put himself into the papers D.D. and F.S.A. he suppressed the Rectory."

His wife is thus noticed on a mural monument in the chancel in Oakley Church :—

"Mary, the wife of Paul Wright, M.A., Vicar and daughter of C. Bridgeman Gent, Alderman and twice Mayor of Hertford. She was a dutiful child, an affectionate and prudent wife, a tender and indulgent parent, a kind mistress, a firm friend and sincere Christian. These virtues procured her love and esteem and have prepared her for a glorious resurrection. She died Nov. 14, 1760, aged 49 years."

A BIBLIOGRAPHY

OF THE WORKS OF

WILLIAM BLYTH GERISH, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.

Speculi Britaniæ Pars. A description of Hertfordshire, by JOHN NORDEN. 1598. Reprinted 1903, with the addition of a Portrait, Biography and Bibliography of Norden, by W. B. GERISH. Quarto, 7/6; folio (large paper), 15/-.

HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK LORE.

No. 1. A Hertfordshire St. George, or the story of **Piers Shonks and the Pelham Dragon**. First and Second Editions (1/- each, post free).

No. 2. A Hertfordshire Robin Hood, or the story of **Jack o' Legs, the Robber-Giant of Weston** (1/-, post free).

No. 3. The Mayers and their Song, or some account of the **First of May and its observance in Hertfordshire** (1/-, post free).

No. 4. A Hertfordshire Witch, or the story of **Jane Wenham, the "Wise Woman" of Walkern** (1/-, post free).

IN PREPARATION:—

No. 5. The Hertfordshire Wonder, or Strange News from Ware. Being an exact Relation of one Jane Stretton, visited by unusual Fits and abstaining from sustenance for nine months. 1699. With a prefatory note by W. B. GERISH.

HERTFORDSHIRE BIOGRAPHY.

The Hertfordshire Historians.

SIR HENRY CHAUNCY, KNIGHT,

Sergeant-at-Law and Recorder of Hertford,

BORN 1632, DIED 1719,

AUTHOR OF

“THE HISTORICAL ANTIQUITIES OF HERTFORDSHIRE,”

FOLIO, 1700

(RE-PRINTED IN TWO VOLUMES, OCTAVO, 1826).

Octavo 7/6, folio (large paper) 15/-.

IN PREPARATION:—

NATHANIEL SALMON, LL.B.,

BORN 1674, DIED 1742.

Author of:—“Roman Stations in Britain upon Watling Street and other Roads.” 1726. “A Survey of the Roman Antiquities in some of the Midland Counties.” 1726. “A New Survey of England, wherein the defects of Camden are supplied.” 1728-9. “The Lives of the English Bishops from the Restoration to the Revolution.” 1733. “The Antiquities of Surrey, collected from the most ancient records.” 1736. “The History and Antiquities of Essex, from the collections of Thomas Jekyll and others.” 1740 (unfinished). And

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Sir Henry Chauncy

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